

Volunteer pram fixer



What's involved?

You'll be repairing prams with our resident technician to a high standard. You'll get to know all kinds of parts: freeing stuck wheels and replacing bearings, cleaning out brakes and fixing broken folding mechanisms. Sometimes you'll be dismantling prams to find reusable parts to get them ready for our cleaning dream team. Once clean, you'll help rebuild prams, so they can be re-used for sale, hire or gifted.

What kind of skills or equipment do I need?

For fixing, no particular skills required but if you're already handy with a screwdriver that will definitely help. Our workshop is stocked with all the tools needed so no need to bring your own. We will provide you with an apron but you'll probably want to wear some clothes you are not too attached to, because it can be mucky work. Don't worry about not knowing where to start - during any volunteering sessions, but particularly at the start of your time with us, someone will be with you to show you what to do, lend a hand with any tricky bits and generally troubleshoot.

How much time do I need to commit to?

Anything from a couple of hours a week to – well, we're open 10-5 weekdays so that's probably the limit! 😊 Most of our volunteers help out once a week for about 4 hours at a time.

If you can't commit more than (say) one hour a week, that's OK, but we'd suggest you'd get more out of a session at Pram HQ if you did more than an hour at a time, so if it's possible to do two hours every fortnight instead, we'd recommend that. But any time you can spare at all is welcome.

What's the benefit to me?

You'll learn about the ins and outs of prams, and will get very good at fixing them. We're a social bunch (although if you'd rather fix in peace, that's OK too), and you can definitely help out and blether at the same time!

You'll get to give something back, being part of giving children more access to the outside world, and keeping their parents in touch with their community. You will also be preventing broken and abandoned prams going to landfill, and keeping them going for a new life - so good for the environment as well.

If it would be useful to you, we're happy to provide a reference letter confirming the commitment you've made and the contribution of the hours you've given us.

How will my volunteering benefit The Pram Project?

To give you an image, our warehouse of donated prams at Pram HQ is affectionately known as 'Pram Mountain'. We are really lucky to have a steady stream of donations from our supporters, but that means we sometimes get overwhelmed and you can't move for broken and dirty prams!

It's really important that the prams we sell, rent and distribute are fixed up and have been checked for safety so that their new wee occupants aren't at risk from anything breaking.

Your volunteering will help us get more high quality prams out of the door, back where they should be: helping small people and parents enjoy the world. Then this helps us get more prams in, away from landfill!

What are your COVID measures?

We limit the number of people working in our workshop at any one time, so we can maintain appropriate distancing. We wear masks when moving around Pram HQ and would ask you to as well, although drop us a line if you have a medical exemption and we'll see what we can do.

Where do I sign up?

Complete our volunteering form and we'll be in touch!

Who do I ask if I have questions?

Contact hello@thepramproject.co.uk in the first instance – if you could put 'Volunteering' in the email subject somewhere, that would really help us out – thank you!

