

VOLUNTEERING INFORMATION



Here is a brief overview of The Infants' Home and the types of volunteering opportunities we can offer.

The Infants' Home is located on 4.5 acres of heritage landscape in Ashfield. The Home has been in operation since 1874. The Infants' Home provides a range of caring, educational and support services for children aged from birth to five years and their families. Our website www.theinfantshome.org.au can give you more information about our services.

We operate Monday to Friday, from 7am to 6pm. Most days there are around 200 children being cared for on site, with around 300 more in the community as part of our Family Day Care scheme. We work with children from a range of backgrounds and socio economic groups, and offer an early intervention service for children with additional needs and their families.

Our opportunities for volunteers tend to be fairly physical, often outdoor jobs. We have eight playgrounds that require maintenance, with sandpits to be refilled, play areas to be cleaned etc. While we employ a gardener and a caretaker who are responsible for much of the maintenance, there is always more work than they can complete. Tasks completed by other groups of volunteers include painting outdoor furniture, clearing garden beds, painting indoor and outdoor areas, pouring concrete, constructing shelving, cleaning out storage sheds, washing toys, helping create resources for children, cleaning and washing buses, mowing lawns, demolishing and reconstructing a verandah etc.

We usually start the day at 9am with a brief introduction to The Home, an OHS briefing and overview of the work planned for the day. We supply morning tea for the volunteers and most equipment needed. We can provide lunch for volunteers if needed however we ask for a donation for this as we have to get lunch from outside caterers. Please advise us in advance if lunch is needed. We have water, juice, tea and coffee all day. The day will finish approximately at 4pm and if there is time (and volunteers aren't too exhausted!) a tour of The Home can be arranged.

We tend to run volunteer days on weekdays, however weekend groups can be accommodated. We have taken groups ranging in size from 8 people to 25 people however around 15 people seems to work well. Our volunteers say they enjoy themselves and find it an excellent team building activity.

I hope this is helpful. Please contact Anita Kumar or Emily Guterres on 9799-4844 for further information.

Thanks for your interest