

# Be a Results Day volunteer

On the 15th August 2024 students from across the UK will find out the grades they have been awarded from their Level 3 studies - typically A Levels and BTEC National Diplomas. It's a critical time for young people to select the best opportunity for them. Many students will not have attained the grades they expected but still have the opportunity to secure a place at university through the UCAS Clearing system<sup>1</sup>. These young people may not be taking the path they had originally planned, but we want to be there to help them seize a great opportunity for further study and onward progression despite the disappointment or uncertainty they may be facing.

Results Day is a potentially stressful time for any student, but for those from disadvantaged backgrounds who may lack the resources or contacts with their own networks, it's a pivotal moment when they must pursue the pathway that best suits their needs and aspirations. This year, these young people will be even more in need of a calm, encouraging person to advise them.

#### The skills and attributes we look for

You can make a real difference by volunteering for MyBigCareer as a Results Day Advisor. We look for individuals who are compassionate, enthusiastic and motivated to help young people achieve their potential. A deep knowledge of the UK education system is not necessary, but you will need:

- The ability to start a conversation and build rapport with a wide range of people
- To be comfortable talking to young people
- Listening skills asking open, constructive questions and listening actively to responses
- Consulting & matching skills making prudent, tailored suggestions
- Creativity ability to think creatively and propose engaging ideas and solutions
- To be able to convey ideas simply and clearly with positivity and enthusiasm

You will also need:

- A passion for social mobility and supporting young people to achieve their full potential
- Commitment to observing a one hour online training session in advance of 17th August
- To complete MyBigCareer's volunteering registration form online

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Clearing matches applicants to UK university places that are yet to be filled, giving students the opportunity to gain a place at university if they have not gained their predicted grades and for some students, to gain a place at a higher tariff university if they performed better than predicted. Applicants, including those who haven't received any offers, can secure a place late in the summer to start university in September. Some courses will reduce their entry criteria in Clearing alone, enabling students to get a place on their dream course despite facing initial disappointment with the grades they attained.

MyBigCareer provides volunteer Results Day Advisors to our partner schools to offer encouragement, support and guidance to the students who need it most. Volunteers attend selected schools in London and the North East of England in person on the day.

# What the day will involve

Most universities will have experienced teams on hand who provide dedicated phone lines with extended hours on Results Day for students to get in touch to explore if places might be available to them. We know these calls can be daunting for young people, especially those who lack confidence or have communication skills that need developing. As a MyBigCareer volunteer Advisor on Results Day 2024 you will help each young person by:

- Supporting them in preparing for their calls to universities
- Providing encouragement and building their confidence
- Helping them to ask the right questions on the calls
- Supporting them to make important decisions arising from their positive conversations
- Talking through next steps and empowering them to move things forward

## **Register Your Interest**

You can read more about the work of the charity and why young people from disadvantaged backgrounds need our support more than ever by visiting our website <u>here</u>. If you would like to volunteer, we'd love to have you on board! Please complete <u>this registration</u> form as soon as you can. We look forward to receiving your application. The deadline to register for this opportunity is **SUNDAY 4t AUGUST**:

- After registering you'll receive a handbook and online training session
- You will be allocated to a school in central London or North East England in early August
- We will provide you with all the information about the school, directions and contact
- Most students collect their results between 8am and 10am with some arriving slightly later, so we ask each of our partner schools when they'd like to have volunteers at the school, which will be no earlier than 8am. The end time of the day won't be any later than 2pm

We understand that some people prefer volunteering in a group. We cannot guarantee that we can keep employer teams together but we will try our best. Our first consideration is ensuring that the young people who need help have someone on hand.

If you have any questions, or would like to find out more, then please contact the team:

### volunteering@mybigcareer.org

Thank you so much for considering volunteering with us, it makes a huge difference to the young people we work with.

### The MyBigCareer Team

