



## Welcome

### A message from our CEO

Hello, and a huge thank you for your interest in volunteering with SoundLincs. We are so pleased that you are considering becoming part of our community. Volunteers are at the very heart of everything we do, and without their time, energy, and commitment, many of our projects simply would not be possible. By choosing to volunteer with us, you are joining a movement that believes in the power of music to inspire, connect, and transform lives.

This pack has been designed to introduce you to who we are, what we do, and the vital role our volunteers play in helping us bring music to people of all ages and backgrounds. Inside, you will find everything you need to know about volunteering with SoundLincs, from the different roles available, to the support and training we provide, to the ways you can get involved. Our aim is to give you all the information you need to decide if SoundLincs is the right place for you, and to show you just how valuable your contribution could be.

Every day, our volunteers make a genuine difference in the communities we serve. Some support our music projects, events, and exhibitions, while others lend a hand in the office, help with communications and design, or assist with fundraising efforts. Each role, no matter how big or small, plays a part in helping us reach more people and create more opportunities for music-making.

At SoundLincs, we are always looking for people who share our vision and values, and who want to support our work by offering their time, skills, knowledge, and experience. You do not need to be a musician to get involved. What matters most is your enthusiasm, your love of music, and your willingness to contribute. Volunteering is also a chance for you to grow – to meet new people, learn new skills, gain valuable experience, and build friendships along the way.

We truly believe that volunteering is a two-way experience. While you are helping us to make a difference in people's lives, you will also find your own life enriched in ways you might not expect. Whether you are hoping to give something back to your community, develop personally or professionally, or simply try something new, we would love for you to consider joining our volunteer family.

If you have any further questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to get in touch. You can email us at **info@soundlincs.org** or call our office on **01522 510073**. We look forward to welcoming you and exploring how, together, we can use music to make a lasting difference.

Eddy Mentzel - CEO



## **About SoundLincs**

### Empowering people, enriching lives

SoundLincs is a not for profit, community music charity with a proud history of using music to make a difference. Since 1998, we have been creating inclusive, inspiring opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds across Lincolnshire and beyond. For us, music is not just about notes and melodies, it is about connection, creativity, and the chance to bring people together.

Our mission is simple. We want everyone, no matter their age, background, or ability, to experience the life enhancing benefits that music can bring. That is why we respond directly to the needs of our communities, working in hospitals, prisons, alternative education settings, care homes, day centres, and community hubs. Many of our projects support people who may be vulnerable, isolated, or at risk, offering safe and creative ways to express feelings, tell stories, and build connections.

Our vision is a world where music is woven into everyday life. We want everyone, regardless of circumstance, to be able to access its joys and its benefits. We believe that through music, we can create stronger and more connected communities, where people feel heard, valued, and supported. None of this would be possible without the passion and dedication of our staff, talented music practitioners, volunteers, and supporters. Together, we reach around 7,500 beneficiaries each year. With your help, we know we can reach even more. Every new supporter, participant, and volunteer strengthens our mission and helps us bring the power of music to more people's lives.



### Jake's Volunteer Story

Jake volunteered with SoundLincs for just over a year, and during that time he made a huge impact. He helped to establish Bourne Community Radio, supported the running of our annual SoundLincs conference, and managed our equipment booking system with dedication and care.

We're delighted that Jake's journey with us has continued, he has since secured a part-time role at SoundLincs as a Project Officer and Music Facilitator. His story is a wonderful example of how volunteering can open new doors, and we're so grateful for the skills, energy, and passion he has brought to our work.



# **Giving Brings Rewards**

### The benefits of volunteering

Volunteering with SoundLincs isn't just about giving your time, it's about making a meaningful difference in your community while enriching your own life in countless ways. When you support others through the power of music, you're not only helping to create opportunities for connection, creativity, and joy, but you're also opening the door to personal growth and fulfillment.

Our volunteers often discover a strong sense of purpose and belonging as they work alongside others who share their passion. They gain valuable skills, meet new people, and form lasting friendships, all while experiencing the unique joy that comes from making a positive impact on someone else's life.

Here's what some of our volunteers have said about the incredible experiences, skills, and memories they've gained along the way. **Connecting with others** – Volunteering is a wonderful way to meet new people, build friendships, and strengthen connections with your community.

**Building new skills** – Gain hands-on experience and training, and develop skills in leadership, teamwork, communication, and problem-solving.

Finding purpose and meaning – Many volunteers discover a deep sense of purpose by contributing to something greater than themselves, gaining a fresh perspective on life and their impact on others.

**Expanding your network** – Volunteering can connect you with mentors and new contacts, opening doors to opportunities that may support your career or personal development.

### Ade's Volunteer Story

Ade is one of our longest-serving volunteers, and we're so thankful for the dedication he has shown over the years.

As our in-house PAT tester and equipment maintenance expert, Ade plays a vital role in keeping our resources safe, reliable, and ready to use. His knowledge and commitment mean our projects and events can run smoothly, and his support behind the scenes makes a real difference every single day.

We truly value Ade's ongoing contribution and the expertise he generously shares with us.





# **Getting Involved**

### Volunteer roles and responsibilities



As a SoundLincs volunteer, you're a valued and essential part of our team. Your time, skills, and enthusiasm help us bring the joy of music to individuals and communities across Lincolnshire. We understand that everyone has different talents and availability, so we aim to match your interests with meaningful opportunities. Depending on what you'd like to do and the time you can give, you could get involved in activities such as:

**Fundraising:** Supporting campaigns, collections, or creative initiatives that help sustain our work.

Office Support: Assisting with admin, design, communications, equipment, and many other essential tasks.

**Events and Exhibitions:** Welcoming guests, helping with set-up and pack-down, support and coordination, and being the friendly face of SoundLincs.

### Our commitment to you

#### We promise to...

- Provide a comprehensive introduction to volunteering at SoundLincs.
- Provide a clear explanation of your role, responsibilities, and expectations.
- Provide an identified point of contact for guidance, supervision, and support.
- Provide opportunities to develop your skills and, where appropriate, take on additional roles.
- Make you feel valued and recognised for what you do and the difference you make.
- Support you every step of the way on your volunteering journey.

#### Your commitment to us

#### You promise to...

- Treat everyone you meet in your volunteering role with respect and compassion.
- Support and follow SoundLincs policies and procedures.
- Respect the boundaries of your voluntary role.
- Handle any information gained through your volunteering with confidentiality.
- Let us know as soon as possible if you are unable to meet an agreed commitment.
- Meet the standards set by SoundLincs, uphold our reputation and act as a trusted advocate for the charity.



## FAQ's

### Your questions answered

What if I am unable to meet an agreed commitment?

That's absolutely fine, just let us know as soon as possible so we can make alternative arrangements.

What should I wear?

We provide a SoundLincs T-shirt, which should be worn whenever you are representing our charity.

How much time do I need to commit?

We're flexible and happy to accommodate any amount of time you can give, but we ask for a minimum of 4 hours per month (roughly 1 hour per week).

Are there any age restrictions for volunteering?

We have roles available for both adults and young people.

Do I need any experience?

Not at all! Enthusiasm and a willingness to get involved are all you need.

Can I volunteer around my other commitments?

Yes! We'll work with you to find a role that fits your availability.

Will SoundLincs cover my expenses?

Yes, we cover reasonable expenses incurred while volunteering.

Can I volunteer if I have a criminal record?

Previous cautions or convictions do not automatically prevent you from volunteering. However, some convictions may limit the roles we can offer. We carry out background checks on all volunteers as part of our safer recruitment process.

What if I have a disability or medical condition?

We welcome volunteers with disabilities or medical conditions. We'll work with you to discuss any support needs and make reasonable adjustments to ensure volunteering with us is accessible.

Will I receive training or support?

Yes! All volunteers receive a full introduction to their role and the charity during induction. You'll also have an identified point of contact for guidance and support, plus opportunities to develop your skills as you gain experience.



#### Find out more

If you have any further questions or would like more information, please get in touch.

You can email us at info@soundlincs.org or call our office on 01522 510073.



# **Our Policies**

### Ensuring safety, fairness, and respect

At SoundLincs, we operate within established charitable and legal frameworks, always striving to uphold best practice in everything we do. Your safety, and the safety of the people we work with, is our highest priority. We are committed to creating an environment where everyone can enjoy a positive, safe, and rewarding experience.

To support this, we have a set of clear policies designed to guide and protect both our volunteers and the communities we serve. These ensure that your role with SoundLincs is enjoyable, structured, and fully supported. The following policies are particularly relevant for volunteers:

**Volunteering** – outlines expectations, responsibilities, and support for volunteers.

**Safeguarding** – ensures the protection and wellbeing of all participants and volunteers.

Health & Safety / Risk Assessments - helps maintain a safe environment and reduce potential risks.

**Equality & Diversity** – promotes an inclusive, respectful, and welcoming environment for everyone.

Data & Confidentiality - ensures information is handled responsibly and securely.

Full policy documents will be provided during your induction, and our team is always available to answer any questions you may have.

In addition, all volunteers are asked to read, agree to, and sign the SoundLincs Code of Conduct. This helps ensure that everyone feels safe, respected, and supported while contributing to our mission. By following these quidelines, you play an essential role in maintaining a positive and professional environment for all.



#### **Lottie's Volunteer Story**

Lottie joined SoundLincs during a transitional period, between leaving school and starting college, and quickly became a valued member of our team. During her time with us, she created eye-catching artwork for our blogs and helped to develop engaging content for our social media channels.

Her creativity, fresh perspective, and enthusiasm brought real energy to our communications, and we're so grateful for the time and talent she shared with us. Lottie's contribution has left a lasting mark on our online presence.



## **Get in Touch**

### We're here to help

We're here for you every step of the way. Whether you have a question about our services, need a bit of extra support, or simply want to have a friendly chat, we'd love to hear from you.

Our team is ready to help, guide, and provide the information you need, no question is too small, and no concern is too big. Here's how you can get in touch with us:



01522 510073



info@soundlincs.org



www.soundlincs.org



18 St. Martins Lane, Lincoln, LN2 1HY









Explore our website to discover our work, see our current projects in action, and find out how you can be part of the journey.

www.soundlincs.org

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