**Role profile**

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| Job title | Department for Education Youth Focal Point for Sustainability and Climate Justice (x2) |
| Reports to: | SOS-UK Project Manager – Education |
| Location: | Anywhere in England |
| Position details: | This is a two-year position, from July 2023 to June 2025 for a young person aged 18-25 years old.  The commitment involves:  - 2 day in-person training workshop at beginning of the role  - Quarterly meetings with relevant DfE officials  - Ad hoc engagement activities and events approx. 4x per year  - Monthly check-ins with other youth focal point and SOS-UK staff |
| Pay: | Paid a stipend of £500 per year, in quarterly instalments of £125.  All expenses for travel and subsistence will be covered as well as any costs to support participation, such as home broadband allowance or budget to purchase formal clothes, if needed.  You will also receive a digital badge in recognition of the skills and expertise you develop in the role, for use on LinkedIn and in future applications. |

**Background**

SOS-UK is a student-led education charity focusing on sustainability. We are working with the Department for Education (DfE) to ensure young people are supported to feed into the implementation and evaluation of the DfE’s Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, which was published in 2022.

SOS-UK’s work spans all aspects of sustainability, with social and climate justice at our core. We support and mentor young people to learn, act, and lead for sustainability in their schools, colleges, universities, workplaces, and communities.

**Role purpose**To ensure youth voice is strongly embedded in the implementation and evaluation of the DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy. This will involve high-level meetings with DfE officials, including civil servants and government ministers; speaking engagements at events; working together to write an evaluation report of the strategy; and being supported to facilitate sessions with young people in your own community to understand the impact of the strategy.

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| Key responsibilities |
| 1. Provide feedback and constructive suggestions to the DfE on the implementation and evaluation of the Sustainability and Climate Change strategy. |
| 1. Prepare for and attend quarterly meetings with DfE officials, including civil servants and government minister. |
| 1. Consult with peers and other young people in your community, or through youth groups/organisations you may be involved in, to understand other young people’s perspectives on sustainability so that you can be a representative for others. |
| 1. Attend and actively participate in training and development opportunities offered to you to build your skills for this role, including a two-day in-person workshop, monthly check-ins with your SOS-UK mentor, and other opportunities as they arise. |
| 1. Work effectively alongside the other Youth Focal Point to collaborate and support one another. |
| 1. In the second year of the role, work together with the other Youth Focal Point, and with support from SOS-UK, to write your own evaluation report of the DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy. |
| 1. Communicate clearly with your SOS-UK mentor, alerting them to any challenges as they arise so that they can support you to resolve them. |
| Shared responsibilities |
| 1. Carry out any other duties that might be reasonably requested of you in the role. |
| 1. Adhere to SOS-UK policies and practices, and actively support and promote the SOS-UK vision, mission and objectives. |
| 1. Commit to ongoing personal and professional development and to ongoing learning about intersectionality and anti-racism. |

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| Person specification | | |
| You should demonstrate the essential criteria in the recruitment process and a willingness to learn and develop the desirable criteria in the role. | | |
| **Qualifications and experience** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| Interest in sustainability and/or climate change | 1 |  |
| Interest in education | 1 |  |
| Interest in policy-making |  | 1 |
| Involvement in youth organisations/spaces, such as community youth groups, national youth organisations, sports clubs, or similar |  | 1 |
| **Knowledge** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| An understanding of the UK education system, including experience of education in the UK |  | 1 |
| Understanding of sustainability issues and solutions, the climate emergency and the ecological crisis |  | 1 |
| Proficient IT skills, including use of online meeting platforms like Zoom or Microsoft Teams and the Microsoft Office suite |  | 1 |
| Interest in inclusion and climate justice issues and solutions |  | 1 |
| **Skills** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| Written communications skills in different contexts, including writing emails, blog posts, or reports |  | 1 |
| Ability to balance priorities between this role with other commitments in your life | 1 |  |
| Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to engage confidently with a wide range of other people |  | 1 |
| Ability to work confidently both in-person and through online platforms, for example Microsoft Teams, Zoom, and Slack |  | 1 |
| Ability to work independently and in a team | 1 |  |
| **Attributes** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| A strong desire to complete work to a high standard | 1 |  |
| Willing to act in a representative capacity, speaking not just from your own perspective but also that of your peers | 1 |  |
| Commitment to making a positive impact and contributing to the successful implementation and evaluation of the Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy | 1 |  |
| Keen to learn and grow, open to new opportunities and committed to developing through this role | 1 |  |
| Commitment to being an active part of an anti-racist organisation with intersectional climate justice as a core value | 1 |  |
| Highly motivated and enthusiastic about addressing climate justice | 1 |  |
| Ability to use own initiative | 1 |  |

Successful candidates will be required to complete a DBS check before beginning in the role.