

HEADSMART CHAMPION



Why do we need your help?

HeadSmart is an awareness campaign run by The Brain Tumour Charity. Its simple aim is to reduce the diagnosis times of childhood brain tumours by ensuring parents, teenagers and healthcare professionals recognise the signs and symptoms early.

Since the campaign was launched in 2011, we have distributed almost 2 million signs-and symptoms cards to schools, optometrists and doctors surgeries. Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers, diagnosis times have reduced from 13 weeks to 6.5 weeks. We now want to reach 4 weeks and make as many people aware as we can—so we need your help!

What will I be doing?

You could get involved in any or all of the following:

- Raising awareness of The Charity and HeadSmart through talking to friends and family, colleagues and on social media.
- Sharing our HeadSmart symptoms cards and resources with local GPs, schools and opticians, either digitally or in person.
- Speaking to as many people as you can about symptoms of brain tumours and raise awareness of the HeadSmart campaign.
- Emailing or writing to your local MP and council to see how they can help promote HeadSmart in your local community.
- Giving talks at local schools/colleges about the HeadSmart campaign.
- Setting up HeadSmart displays in a variety of locations in your local area (these could include; surgeries, health centres, libraries, your workplace, community centres).

What skills and experience do I need?

- A personal and friendly manner
- Organised and reliable
- Confidence to interact with the public
- A passion for reducing brain tumour diagnosis times in young people

How much of my time would you like?

This is a flexible role, but ideally we're looking for people who can give a minimum of a few hours per month.

You will also be asked to keep a note of where you've raised awareness, so we can continue to develop our approach for raising awareness.

How will I be trained and supported?

- You will receive a digital induction to The Charity and your role.
- You will have a named point of contact at the charity who you can contact with questions or for support and advice.
- We will send you any resources necessary to carry out your role
- If you wish, we can introduce you to another HeadSmart Champion volunteer, who can provide tips and guidance, based on experience.

Brain tumours in the UK: the facts

- Brain tumours are the biggest cancer killer of children and adults under 40
- Almost 11,000 people are diagnosed with a primary brain tumour each year
- 62% of children who survive a brain tumour are left with a life-altering disability

The Brain Tumour Charity is the world's leading brain tumour charity and the largest dedicated funder of research into brain tumours globally. Committed to saving and improving lives, we're moving further, faster to help every single person affected by a brain tumour.

We're set on finding new treatments, offering the highest level of support and driving urgent change. And we're doing it right now. Because we understand that when you, or someone you love, is diagnosed with a brain tumour – a cure really can't wait.

What can I gain from volunteering with you?

- An opportunity to develop your relationship building, people and presentation skills
- Making a valuable contribution to the lives of those affected by brain tumours

Where will I be based?

In and around your local area, with the option to travel to events further afield, should you wish to.

How do I apply?

Complete our online [application form](#), or contact the Volunteer team by phone on 01252 237818 or by email volunteering@thebraintumourcharity.org.

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