

Schools of Sanctuary Co-ordinator

Background

Places of Sanctuary Ireland (PoSI) is a network of groups and communities which share the objective of promoting a culture of welcome and inclusion across every sphere and sector of society, especially for people seeking sanctuary. This culture of welcome and inclusion is vitally important in education.

Schools of Sanctuary (SoS) are schools that are committed to creating a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment that benefits everybody, especially families seeking sanctuary. These schools help students, staff, parents, and the wider community to understand what it means to be a refugee and to extend a welcome to everyone regardless of their status. Schools work through three core principles, Learn, Action and Share. <https://schools-ireland.cityofsanctuary.org/>

Schools of Sanctuary has grown rapidly in Ireland since 2019, and we are well positioned to upscale our innovative and refugee-centred programme in response to the recent influx of refugees from Ukraine and elsewhere. We are now expanding our dedicated and talented team to meet the growing demands. PoSI is seeking to recruit an additional SoS coordinator with exceptional networking, interpersonal and communication skills to work directly with schools and Sanctuary Ambassadors. PoSI is an equal opportunities employer and applications from people with lived experience of being a refugee or migrant in Ireland are very welcome.

Role Summary

The Schools of Sanctuary Co-ordinator is responsible for promoting and supporting the Schools of Sanctuary programme to ensure that the Schools of Sanctuary principles and sanctuary values are embedded in the school culture. The Co-ordinator will be a key member of the Schools of Sanctuary national team alongside fellow coordinators, Sanctuary Ambassadors, teachers and volunteers. This is a full-time role with the option of appointing two part-time coordinators.

Key responsibilities

1. Work with Schools participating in the SoS programme to ensure they receive all the support they need to embed the principles and values of the programme into all aspects of school life.
2. Collaborate with local community/partnership groups to promote the benefits of Sanctuary and the SoS programme, and to identify new schools to join the programme.
3. Collaborate with the SoS project team to help deliver the SoS project plan, and report on progress.
4. Promote the culture and values of Sanctuary in schools at every available opportunity including media.

5. Help to create and deliver webinars, workshops and information sessions for Schools of Sanctuary, and to assist in producing and maintaining a library of resources and materials.
6. Work with the Sanctuary Ambassadors, teachers and volunteers to deliver the right level of contact for each school. Ensure that follow-up actions are delivered.
7. Help form, train and recruit monitoring teams and assist with debriefing and reporting.
8. Work on communications, website, and social media alongside the team.

Relevant skills and experience

- Knowledge of and empathy with the issues facing refugees and other migrants.
- Understanding of the Irish school education system and the experience of refugees and migrants in schools.
- Commitment to the values of Sanctuary particularly in relation to schools and education.
- Experience of working with groups of refugees and education providers.
- Strong influencing and communication skills, including the delivering of seminars/webinars, workshops, presentations and lectures to a variety of audiences and age groups (in person and via zoom).
- Ability to recruit and train groups of refugees and migrants as Sanctuary Ambassadors in schools.
- Exceptional interpersonal skills including interaction with groups of children of all ages.
- Proven ability to build networks and link people and groups.
- Computer literacy, zoom competence, and report-writing ability.
- Internet competence including website and social media.
- Pro-active team person with the ability to help build a strong team spirit across the SoS team and the Sanctuary Ambassadors and plan and share tasks, including remotely.
- Location is flexible, but willingness to travel is essential.

Commitments required

This is a full-time role with an option of employing two part-time coordinators.

There will be regular travel required (1-3 days per month).

This is a 3-year contract subject to funding and probationary period, with an annual salary of approximately €35,000-€40,000 pa pro rata.

To Apply

Please send a CV with a cover letter to schools@ireland.cityofsanctuary.org. Your cover letter should explain clearly why you are interested in this role, and why your background and skillset make you a suitable candidate. Please indicate if you are applying for the full-time or part-time option. This is a 3-year contract subject to funding and probationary period, with an annual salary of approximately €35,000 - €40,000 pa pro rata.

Final date for receipt of applications: August 12th 2022.

<https://ireland.cityofsanctuary.org/> <https://schools-ireland.cityofsanctuary.org/>