



Fiona – age 20

17TH GREENOCK GUIDES

Having the Right People Around You

Straight after I left Guides I became a young leader and got my young leader qualification.

Gradually I've taken on more responsibility. I find it really helpful to watch and mirror the different styles of the other leaders - having role models. But we're friends too - we're close in age which helps I think. It feels like we are a wee family when we come together every week.

We've got two camps coming up and I'll be more involved in making sure those go to plan. It's a bit scary but also exciting to have opportunities to take charge and try out my ideas. It's not pressured - volunteering is always a choice and the other leaders have never pushed me to do anything. It's great that they know me so well because that means they can gauge the level of stretch for me. We all give what we can, and having the right people around you makes lots of things possible.

Now I'm at Uni, I realise that the skills I've learned as a volunteer are useful to me in my studies. In guiding you meet so many people that I don't find team work difficult, even with strangers. Planning and organising skills are also really important now I'm working more independently. I think I'm much better at organising my workload and managing deadlines than I would have been if I hadn't had my volunteering experience.