

# Non-Technical Volunteer Specification

## What is CoderDojo?

CoderDojo is an open source, volunteer led movement of free computer programming clubs for young people. At Dojos, young people between 7 and 17 learn how to code, develop websites, apps, programs, games and more. Dojos are set up, run by and led by volunteer members of the community, for their local community. Due to this, all local Dojos are autonomous and each Dojo is different based on the skills of it's core team. Teams are comprised of a Champion, Mentors and non-technical volunteers.

CoderDojo has just one rule for the young people attending:

***"Be Cool"***

***Bullying, lying, being disrespectful, wasting people's time and so on is considered uncool.***

This information is for volunteers responsible for leading and managing support for Champions and Mentors who work with young people at CoderDojo.

## What is a volunteer?

*"Volunteers are people from all walks of life regardless of age and stature that have a common goal. This goal is the desire to make a difference in their community by giving their time to help others."*

## Why not help out at your CoderDojo?

Whilst each individual CoderDojo aims to have some professional coders assisting, Dojos also welcome non-tech volunteers who might not necessarily know how to code - but simply are passionate about assisting young people in learning at CoderDojo. Volunteers are involved in once-off events, as well as ongoing activities so you don't have to feel pressured to take part in every Dojo.

## **Duties and Responsibilities of a Non-Technical Volunteer**

Parents of regular attendees and non technical volunteers who want to help out often work in Dojos. A non-tech volunteer can support their Dojo by providing encouragement to young people at the Dojo and helping when:

### **Planning a Dojo**

- Help finding a venue
- Organising and Planning
- Promotion the next Dojo session
- Help Source Funding or in kind Donations of equipment etc
- Administration and related support services

### **At the Dojo**

- Health and Safety Checks
- Dojo Supervision:
  - Positive reinforcement
  - Encouraging creativity
  - Facilitate peer to peer learning
- Setting up and cleaning after the session
- Car pooling

It is recommended that parents of young children stay and supervise their child for the duration of the session. If you are attending the session with your child and staying around, please consider helping out with the CoderDojo! It is also not uncommon for non-tech volunteers to learn the basics of Scratch and be able to work with beginners as a Mentor!

## **More information about CoderDojo:**

Website: <http://coderdojo.com/>  
Zen: <http://zen.coderdojo.com/>  
Kata: [http://kata.coderdojo.com/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://kata.coderdojo.com/wiki/Main_Page)

Videos about CoderDojo:

- **CoderDojo, One Rule: Be Cool!:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k5ciSFjEN1c>
- **CoderDojo in 90 Seconds:**  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z\\_gcHGa8J1E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_gcHGa8J1E)
- **Coding the Future, The Story of CoderDojo so Far:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjboMjNr9Q>