**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

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| A person and person dancing  Description automatically generated with low confidence | What is Gig Buddies?  A volunteer-based friendship scheme for adults with learning disabilities and autism.    Gig buddies aim to support people to develop their support networks. |
| A picture containing text, sign, outdoor, red  Description automatically generated | What is the youngest age group you work with?    18 years old and above. |
| Icon  Description automatically generated | Who is the scheme for?  Anyone with a learning disability or autism.    Gig Buddies wants to help those who get little or no funded support. |

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|  | Do volunteers receive training?    Yes. |
| A picture containing clipart, automaton  Description automatically generated | Who decided on the Gig Buddy match?    Staff members will carry out an interview to get to know more about the volunteer and the member.    The member and volunteer will then be introduced to each other, and we will support their first gig together. |
| A picture containing text  Description automatically generated | What if the pairing doesn’t work out?    That’s completely okay!    If it doesn’t work, we will offer support to see if there is anything we can do to help.    We will  support someone to find a new buddy. |

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| A picture containing shape  Description automatically generated | Is it all about music and gigs?    No,  whatever your interest is, we aim to find a match.    This could be playing/watching sports, walking or going to the cinema. |
| Chart  Description automatically generated | Are you a user led organisation?    Yes! Members are invited to be part of our advisory group – Fizzy Rascals.    Which makes decisions about the projects and socials. |
|  | Do you organise gigs?   No.  We organise fundraisers and social meetups for all of those involved in the project.  We believe that events should be about involving people in mainstream community life. |

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|  | How do buddies get to the gigs?    This can depend on the individual and what they are comfortable doing.    If they are confident at using public transport, then you may meet up at the venue, or a familiar meeting place.    If someone isn’t confident, the buddies may arrange to meet at the participant’s house.    Getting home will be the same sort of arrangement. |
|  | How are volunteers recruited?    Volunteers are found through different ways. |
|  | Why be a Gig Buddy?    To help enable people with learning disabilities and/or autism to enjoy all the great things going on in their community, especially live music.    Volunteering is very rewarding! |

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|  | How much does it cost?    Gig Buddies costs £10 per year to be a member, but we would expect a participant to pay their gig tickets and travel costs.    We will pay back volunteers for their expenses. (We can reimburse gig tickets up to £10). |
| Diagram  Description automatically generated | How often should I meet my buddy?    Try to aim for at least once a month. This is down to the decision of the volunteer and buddy to decide on. |