

How the Good Neighbours scheme works

We simply match older people who need a bit of friendship with a volunteer in their community who shares some of their spare time to chat to them and befriend them. We also run and fund friendship and hobby clubs for older people, and can help people find the right club for them.

We can inform older people about other services that could be useful to them, such as personal alarms and fire safety checks. To ensure that everyone stays safe, we ask people for emergency contact details, information about any special needs and some safety details about home environments for home visits.

Due to COVID-19, for a home visit volunteers must be able to sit 2m away from clients in the house.

Client and volunteer information is kept confidential.



Could you be a Good Neighbour?

Good Neighbours Bedworth

Friendship for older people in the community



What is the Good Neighbours scheme?

The project matches local volunteer friends (befrienders) to older people in their community who feel isolated or stuck at home. Being part of Good Neighbours Bedworth can involve visiting people in their home for a chat and a cuppa, chatting on the phone, or going out to local clubs. If you could offer or benefit from a little extra friendship or a wider social life, then get in touch.

Who qualifies for the Good Neighbours scheme?

Befriending volunteers generally visit or phone people aged 50+, and priority is given to those who are living alone. There is no upper age limit on being a volunteer - any adult can offer friendship in some way at any age!



These are some of the things volunteers may be able to do with you:

- ◆ Have a regular chat (by phone or by visiting)
- ◆ Share a hobby together
- ◆ Go for a short walk
- ◆ Check that you are safe, warm and well
- ◆ Visit a cafe
- ◆ Connect you to a local friendship group or club
- ◆ Give information about other services, such as library book delivery or trustworthy tradespeople

Joining the Good Neighbours scheme

To get involved with Good Neighbours Bedworth: call or 07763 908460 or email goodneighboursbedworth@hopecoventry.org.uk.

It is **free** of charge to have visits or to volunteer.

To find out more, visit [Facebook— Good Neighbours Bedworth](#)

Anyone with 30-60 minutes spare per week can offer their friendship locally after a short training session and DBS police check. Volunteers and older people are matched by location, interests, hobbies, availability and personality, so there will be plenty to chat about! Volunteers do not replace carers and cannot provide personal care or medical help.

Befriending relationships

Some volunteers and older people chat by phone only; some physically meet up. Volunteers and older people are introduced to one another after a short assessment by a Good Neighbours Coordinator either by phone, in the older person's home or at a local location.



If the introduction goes well, they meet each week/fortnight for a chat and some company. Volunteers and older people can contact their Good Neighbours Bedworth Coordinator for advice.