

“Compassion, empathy, openness and awareness of current practice, being unafraid to make mistakes and being interested in people”

“The ability to turn nothing into something! Rapport, being non-judgemental. The ability to see potential in everyone and being able to release that potential. The ability to read a person or a group in a short amount of time”

"Guts, passion and insanity -
in that order"

"Flexibility in every sense of the word. Also being receptive to the group and thinking on your feet"

"Pushing boundaries, honest,
compassionate, brave, sense of humour
and ability to think on your feet,
empathetic and passionate"

“Deep listening... being able to read people/a group and having a toolkit packed with ideas and experience to be able to respond with. Being able to let go of plans and go with what's needed in the moment”

"Being prepared to fly by the seat of your pants when necessary. Being able to work with an assistant. Having high expectations of the group - not dumbing stuff down. Being receptive to ideas and reading a group dynamic well. Having energy and a spark and a certain twinkle that makes everything exciting but not thinking that everything needs to be loud and high energy... Giving time for reflection and calm. The ability to self-evaluate and not blame the group when things go wrong. Being humble and also non-judgemental but having clear boundaries. Blimey I could go on and on..."

“Modelling honest, empathetic
and humble behaviour. No
bullshit approach”

"Listening. Preparing, but then chucking out of the window when you realise who the group really are and what they need. CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. Admitting when it went wrong and learning from why... And remembering that everyone's needs are different and various - keep the radar open for difficulties understanding English, issues with making friends, hearing impairments, physical impairments and learning difficulties...e.g not assuming that someone is a 'nightmare' if they don't engage immediately. And don't listen to what teachers etc. tell you about what to expect from individuals."

"Safety and fun. Making the group feel safe when carrying out a workshop is a lovely attribute and a necessary one. Listening and communication between yourself and co-facilitators and between the groups you're facilitating. Being honest. Having fun and excitement in what you are doing and remembering that your own individuality is what makes your facilitating great. Don't try to be other facilitators or practitioners - be yourself and results will come"

"Be you, be honest, have fun. If you're at ease then your participants will be too. Make a plan, but be flexible and don't be afraid to go with new ideas."

"One of the many things is flexibility, and the ability to quickly respond to a group's needs. So having lots of alternative activities in your mind in case a workshop suddenly needs to take a different direction than planned and therefore not forcing pre-planned activities on a group if it's not working"
