

Try The Train – Freelance Facilitator (Various Locations Available)

East Lancashire, Peak District to Derbyshire and South Yorkshire

About

Community Rail Lancashire (CRL) is an accredited Community Rail Partnership working to connect people and places through the railway. We collaborate with the rail industry, local authorities, schools and community organisations to deliver projects that promote confident, safe and inclusive rail use, while supporting social, economic and environmental wellbeing.

Try The Train (TTT) is one of CRL's flagship education programmes, funded by Northern. It supports pre-existing groups to become confident, independent rail users through a programme of workshops and supported train journeys. The programme helps participants overcome practical and perceived barriers to rail travel, promotes safe and respectful use of the railway, and supports sustainable transport choices.

More information: www.trythetrain.org.uk

Role Overview

Freelance Try The Train facilitators are a key part of the team who deliver a structured programme of three workshops and two supported train journeys with pre-existing participant groups aged 14+, accompanied by group staff.

Facilitators support participants to build confidence, practical rail skills and independence, adapting delivery to meet a wide range of access, mobility and confidence needs. Delivery takes place in community settings and on the rail network.

This role is on a freelance (self-employed) basis with delivery to be between May and October 2026.

Locations: We are building a pool of facilitators able to deliver the programme in East Lancashire, Peak District to Derbyshire and South Yorkshire.

Commitment, Fees & Support

- Total of 10 days delivery across 2 participant groups
- Each group programme includes:
 - 3 workshops
 - 2 supported train journeys
- Fee: £200 per day (£2,000 total for delivery)
- Additional paid training: 2 days shadowing experienced Try The Train facilitators
- A Northern group rail pass will be provided

Key Responsibilities

Programme Delivery

- Deliver Try The Train workshops and supported rail journeys with pre-existing community and/or disability groups, working alongside accompanying group staff.
- Create a supportive, inclusive learning environment that builds confidence and independence.
- Adapt delivery methods to suit participant needs, learning styles and access requirements.
- Support participants to use the railway safely, confidently and respectfully.

Planning & Coordination

- Work collaboratively with group staff, partners and rail colleagues.
- Ensure all delivery is carried out safely and professionally in public and rail environments.

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Collect participant feedback and evaluation information.
- Contribute to monitoring and reporting requirements for Community Rail Lancashire and funders.

Professional Practice

- Uphold Community Rail Lancashire's policies on safeguarding, equality, diversity, inclusion, health & safety and data protection.
- Represent Try The Train and Community Rail Lancashire positively at all times.

Person Specification

Essential

- Experience delivering workshops or facilitated activity with community groups, young people or adults.
- Experience of working sensitively with disabled people and/or groups facing barriers to travel, confidence or access.
- Confidence working with groups in public settings.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to adapt delivery to meet diverse needs.
- Organised, reliable and able to work independently.
- Commitment to equality, diversity, inclusion, safeguarding and professional standards.

Desirable

- Experience of informal education, community learning or outreach work.
- Familiarity with rail, transport or travel education.
- Experience delivering activity in public or transport settings.

Recruitment Process

To apply, please submit to paula.williams@communityraillancashire.co.uk

- A CV
- A short expression of interest, outlining your relevant experience, preferred delivery location(s), and why you are interested in delivering Try The Train.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a friendly online conversation with:

- Catherine Kingdom (Try The Train Project Lead)
- Paula Williams (Try The Train Administrator)

Interviews will take place online on 13th and 15th April 2026

Deadline for applications: March 23rd 2026