

Garden Assistant Volunteer



Volunteering with: Growing Together gardening sessions. Leading small groups of our adult volunteers either in the garden or plant nursery, some of whom may have additional needs.

Responsibilities

Support staff to prepare resources, plan and set up for sessions

Lead small groups in garden tasks, teaching and demonstrating the task.

Support participants to engage in activities during sessions.

Safeguarding/health and safety, including following risk assessments.

Support with providing refreshments

Encourage participants to work with and interact with others.

Helping to clear up after participants have left.



Skills and experience needed

Experience / knowledge of gardening / horticulture / conservation tasks.

Interest / knowledge in natural world and/or permaculture

Understanding of the health benefits of nature connectedness and therapeutic horticulture

Able to meet/support people's individual needs

Patience and understanding with a commitment to being supportive and companionable.

Flexibility - tasks may need to change and participant's behaviour may be surprising or erratic.

Reliability - for both staff and the participants, this is important for continuity and trust.

Ability to explain tasks clearly and in simple ways.

Prepared to work outdoors in most weather.

Ability to observe professional boundaries and confidentiality in relation to working with adults at risk.

Skills development offered

- In-house training when available
- Adults at Risk online Training

Support available

- Reasonable vehicle mileage or public transport costs will be reimbursed
- Personal protective equipment will be supplied when needed
- A full induction to the site and role

Time commitment

Ideally 1 day a week 9.30am-3.30pm (hours can be discussed e.g. to fit in with childcare) for a minimum of 6 months. The continuity is important for our participants and staff.

There may be some training to complete outside of this time.

Any other relevant information

You will be required to provide two referees and may be required to get a DBS check. Scotswood Garden will support with this and cover all costs.

We're always looking for help with our community events and we may ask if you would be willing to get involved. There's no obligation to do so, but this may be an additional activity for you to join in with.

Scotswood Garden operates comprehensive safeguarding and Health and Safety policies that all volunteers are required to adhere to.