

Volunteer role title: Ward Activities Volunteer

Location: Across sites

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is one of the UK's largest, busiest and most successful NHS Foundation Trusts. We provide a full range of hospital and community services for people in Sheffield, as well as specialist care for patients from further afield. We manage five of Yorkshire's best known teaching hospitals including:

- Northern General Hospital
- Royal Hallamshire Hospital
- Charles Clifford Dental Hospital
- Weston Park Cancer Hospital
- Jessop Wing Maternity Hospital

We have a long history of providing high quality care, clinical excellence and innovation in medical research.

With around 17,000 employees, we are one of the biggest employers locally. We aim to reflect the diversity of local communities and are proud of our new and existing partnerships with local people, patients, neighbouring NHS organisations, local authority and charitable bodies.

The Voluntary Services Team:

STH Voluntary Services Team is supported by Sheffield Hospitals Charity. We provide volunteer-led services which enhance patient and visitor experience and support staff in their areas. Volunteer roles include Hospital Welcomers, Ward-Based Support, Clothing Project and Patient Feedback Volunteers.

The Arts in Health Team:

STH Arts in Health Team is also supported by Sheffield Hospitals Charity. We provide creative activities and enhance environments to help improve the hospital experience for patients, visitors and staff.

About the role:

Our Ward Activities Volunteers work on various wards across our hospitals and come into contact with patients who have a range of conditions. A large number of our patients are elderly and frail and/or living with dementia.

The aim of Ward Activities Volunteers is to improve the hospital experience by helping patients to engage in conversation and in a range of on and offline activities during their stay.

Ward Activities Volunteers work with patients individually at bedsides and where appropriate, lead activities for a number of patients within a bay or dayroom.

The menu of activities is continually expanding and includes colouring-in, shared reading, card making, puzzles, quizzes, poetry writing, drawing, interactive digital equipment, online entertainment, a range of games and more.

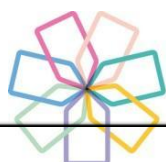
Volunteers mostly meet new patients each week, however on our longer stay wards, there may be the opportunity for volunteers to work with the same patients over a period of weeks.

We have a fantastic music programme where professional musicians perform concerts on our wards. Volunteers accompany musicians, help them transition between bays, encourage patient engagement, and gather feedback from patients, staff and visitors.

These sessions take place on wards at either the Northern General Hospital, the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Jessops, Weston Park, Charles Clifford or Beech Hill Rehabilitation Unit (Norfolk Park Road, S2).

As a Ward Activities Volunteer you will be asked to:

- Approach ward staff and ask them to identify patients who would most benefit from some company and participating in an activity.
- Encourage patients (as well as visitors where possible) to take part in the activities at bedsides (and in dayrooms when permitted and staff supervision available).
- Clean resources between patient use adhering to our infection control guidelines.
- Book, sign out, look after and return any equipment/resources.
- Introduce musicians to ward contacts, encourage patients into dayrooms (where applicable), encourage patient engagement, help ensure smooth running of concerts.
- Observe patients during sessions, noting how they respond to activities, any positive/negative comments, and highlighting any changes in mood/behavior/interaction with others. Ask patients how they found the session, recording their responses using the evaluation form provided.
- Encourage patients to take photos of any artwork/poetry produced during the session if they have their own camera phone and to email them to sth.arts@nhs.net
- Obtain patient, visitor and staff consent using forms provided. Supply consent forms to Arts Activities Officer.



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As a Ward Activities Volunteer you will not be asked to:

- Provide personal care such as assisting patients with the toilet.
 - Deal with complaints and incidents.
 - Move and handle patients or non-patient heavy items.
 - Chaperone patients in appointments.
 - Assist with feeding patients.
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Skills and experience needed:

Previous experience is not necessary, as training will be provided but this volunteer role would suit individuals who are:

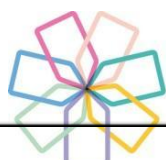
- enthusiastic, friendly, chatty and creative with an interest in arts, puzzles, poetry, and music.
 - able to communicate well and enjoy working with and listening to people.
 - understanding to the varying needs of patients.
 - helpful, empathetic and patient at all times.
 - Self-motivated.
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Attitudes and values needed:

- Non-judgmental
 - Committed to Equal Opportunities practice
 - Friendly
 - Approachable
 - Happy to help patients
 - Talkative
 - Kind and caring
 - Positive
 - Reliable and dedicated
 - Confident meeting new people
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Time Commitment:

Volunteers are required to commit to at least 3 hours per week for a minimum of 6 months.



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