

# Volunteer Role Profile



Oxford Health  
NHS Foundation Trust

Volunteer Role

**Volunteer to Career - Speech and Language  
Therapy Volunteer**

Volunteer Manager

**Speech and Language Therapist**

Where you will be based

**Hospital**

## Why we want you

Oxfordshire Stroke Rehabilitation Unit is a 20-bed inpatient unit based at Abingdon Community Hospital.

We provide a short period of inpatient rehabilitation for people who have had a stroke, are registered with an Oxfordshire GP and are not able to be discharged directly home from hospital.

A Speech Therapy volunteer would provide support to patients and provide them with additional opportunities for communication practice. This would include supporting in a role alongside a specialist speech therapist and speech therapist assistant, understanding more about their role and supporting with practical tasks relating to communication.

## What you will be doing

- Gain knowledge and understanding relating to the importance of speech therapy and communication.
- Gain knowledge and understanding of practical skills that can be used to help people with communication difficulties communicate successfully.
- Provide support for patients to access weekly art therapy groups and music groups.
- Building rapport with patients and provide the opportunity for them to communicate.
- Liaising with other volunteers on the ward.
- Support the development of appropriate and accessible resources on wards with guidance from staff.
- Supporting patients to engage with tasks specifically set or recommended by the Speech Therapist
- Hand over any relevant service user's information to staff working on the unit on a day-to-day basis.
- Championing patients to communicate with staff, other volunteers, and visitors by providing some support.

## The skills you need

- Interpersonal skills
- Communication skills: Written and verbal

- Shadow the SLT or SLTA for 3 therapy sessions prior to starting in the position.
- Willingness to undertake any other relevant training relating to tasks.
- Given a thorough site induction by the main supervisor before commencing the post.
- Complete monthly supervision and receive ongoing support from the Volunteer Co-ordinator.
- Volunteers will be prepared to raise any concerns about patients (including but not limited to clinical concerns to the Speech and Language Therapist, assistants or supervisors).
- Completing the NHS England Volunteer Training as mandatory training for all new Volunteers.

### **What's in it for you**

- Gaining experience for those interested in health and social care, mental health or specialised services
- Increasing confidence, boosts self esteem and general wellbeing
- Increasing skills, opportunities to learn and train
- Meet new people, social skills
- Feeling part of a team
- Increasing independence
- 1-1 support in applying for NHS Job Vacancies with a recruitment consultant
- VtC Volunteers will have access to the Oxford Health library services to support learning and development