

Ward Volunteer

Job title:	Ward Volunteer
Hours of volunteering:	2/3 hours per week (specified day) over minimum 26 week period
Location:	Allocated ward- various placements available
To whom responsible:	Voluntary Services Manager/Nurse in Charge
Job summary:	To enhance the quality and comfort of the patient's stay assisting with the smooth running of the ward under direct supervision from the qualified nursing staff

Key duties and responsibilities:

Improving the patient experience by:

- Spending time listening to patients and chatting
- Running errands on behalf of patients e.g. purchasing items from the shops on the concourse, posting letters
- Assisting with giving out post for patients
- Engaging in appropriate activities e.g. looking through magazines, doing crosswords and puzzles
- Reading/writing for patients

Helping at mealtimes- Assist housekeepers serving refreshments by:

- Offering patients a hand wipe before and after meals
- Assisting with giving out meals
- Ensuring patients can reach their meal comfortably (alerting staff if patient needs re-positioning, **as must not** assist with any moving and handling of patient)
- Opening any packaging as required
- Cutting food into manageable pieces
- Assisting patients to access drinks, for example giving out and filling water jugs as directed by staff
- Providing encouragement at mealtimes

General Assistance

- Escorting visitors to the ward
- Assisting in maintaining a tidy environment by tidying cupboards and areas
- Restocking information racks on the ward or the link corridor

Useful Skills/qualifications/Experience required:

- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Confident to approach patients
- Comfortable in a ward environment
- Alongside a member of staff, if required, the volunteer would be happy to participate in promotional events either onsite or offsite

Our Trust values and behaviours

Values	Behaviours	Love to see	Expect to see	Don't want to see
Safe I never walk past, I always speak up	Safety	Shares lessons learned to help others to improve safety.	Always follows agreed safety and wellbeing procedures. Learns from mistakes and asks for help if they need it.	Shows a lack of focus on safety and wellbeing in their day-to-day work.
	Raising concerns	Encourages others to raise concerns about safety or attitude.	Speaks up every time standards on safety, care or dignity are not met. Welcomes feedback.	Keeps concerns to themselves, and rejects feedback about their own behaviour.
	Communication	Seeks ways to enhance understanding of information being communicated to meet people's needs.	Keeps people informed and gives clear explanations in ways people can understand.	Doesn't give people the information they need. Uses jargon inappropriately.
	Teamwork	Encourage others to contribute and demonstrates better ways of working within and across teams.	Works as part of a team. Co-operates and communicates with colleagues. Values other people's views.	Excludes others and works in isolation.
	Reassuringly professional	Is constantly aware that what they say and do affects how safe other people feel.	Is calm, patient and puts people at ease. Takes pride in their own appearance and our environment.	Passes on their negativity/stress. Is critical of other teams or colleagues in front of others. Displays unprofessional appearance.
Kind I always take care of the people around me	Welcoming	Goes out of their way to make people feel welcome.	Is polite, friendly, makes eye contact, smiles where appropriate and introduces themselves. 'Hello my name is...'	Ignores or avoids people. Is rude or abrupt, appears unapproachable/moody.
	Respectful	Applies a broader understanding of the diverse needs of patients/colleagues. Supports others to be themselves.	Treats everyone as an equal and valued individual. Acts to protect people's dignity.	Ignores people's feelings or pain. Makes people feel bullied, belittled or judged.
	Helpful	Thinks about the needs of others. Goes the 'extra mile' for other people.	Is attentive and compassionate, helps people who need help, or finds someone who can. Never walks by.	Makes people feel like a burden: 'It's not my patient / job / problem'.
	Listen	Makes time to listen to people even when busy.	Listens to people in an attentive and responsive manner.	Disinterested, dismissive or talks over people.
	Appreciate	Goes out of their way to make people feel valued for their efforts and achievements.	Encourages people's efforts. Notices when people live up to our values, says thank you.	Doesn't notice or appreciate people's efforts.
Excellent I'm always looking for a better way	Aiming high	Their positive attitude inspires others to achieve the highest levels of quality.	Always aims to achieve the best results.	Accepts mediocrity or moans without looking for solutions.
	Improving	Helps others to find creative solutions to problems and shares good practice.	Suggests ideas for better ways of doing things and looks for opportunities to learn.	Resists change: 'we've always done it this way'.
	Responsible	Shows enthusiasm and energy to achieve excellent results.	Takes responsibility and has a positive attitude.	Avoids responsibility. Blames or criticises others.
	Timely	Always respects the value of other people's time.	Is on time, efficient, organised and tidy. Apologises and explains if people are kept waiting.	Misses deadlines or keeps people waiting, without explanation/apology.
	Makes connections	Helps others to understand how services connect.	Thinks beyond their own job and team to make things easier for people.	Focuses on their own department needs to the detriment of the people they serve.

Together-**Safe** | **Kind** | **Excellent**