



<b>Department</b>	Ouseburn Farm Volunteering
<b>Volunteer Role</b>	Placement Support Volunteer   Textiles/Crafts
<b>Availability</b>	2-3 hours on Tuesday afternoons
<b>Location</b>	Ouseburn Farm Charity Ltd, Ouseburn Road, Newcastle, NE1 2PA
<b>Category</b>	Care Farm
<b>To apply for this role</b>	Download the application form from our website: <a href="http://www.ouseburnfarm.org.uk">www.ouseburnfarm.org.uk</a>
<b>For more information</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:volunteering@ouseburnfarm.org.uk">volunteering@ouseburnfarm.org.uk</a> or call Sarah on 07816 978309

### About this volunteer role

Our team provides holistic experience, creative development and friendship for adults with learning disabilities/difficulties and ASD (Autistic Spectrum disorder). Our adult placements are at the centre of the work we do and the services we provide. All activities are inspired by and, indeed, take place in and around our working farmyard, gardens, cafe and popular visitor centre.

As a Placement Support Volunteer, you will provide individual assistance to people with learning difficulties/disabilities who attend the farm, by supporting them to accomplish their routine tasks. Our trainees work in various areas of the farm, including livestock, horticulture, catering and cooking, arts and crafts, photography and creative arts. Volunteers are required to work directly with trainees to assist in promoting skills development, lift their spirits and encourage independence by ensuring the process is enriching. Specific tasks will depend on the needs of the work area and abilities of the person with disability. Volunteers are allocated no more than two trainees to work with throughout the session.

As a textiles/crafts volunteer, you will draw on your individual skill/talent to deliver workshops for up to 6 adults with learning difficulties/disabilities on Tuesday afternoons. You will work with other Placement Support Volunteers to design and deliver a Tuesday afternoon session. Workshops can cover many different craft subjects including knitting, crocheting, paper craft, decoupage, felt making or any other workshop you think we may be interested in. Please contact us to offer and/or discuss your individual workshop ideas.

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## Role responsibilities

- Motivate and provide general support to our existing adult placements with disabilities/learning difficulties in taking part in their workshop
- Helping with the general welfare, health and safety of our placements
- Encouraging a proactive approach to learning and development
- Finding creative ways for placements to develop their skills and independence
- Feedback to staff team on the individual progress of trainees
- Become familiar with Ouseburn Farm's ethos and history
- keep up to date with current activities and services on offer

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## Knowledge, skills and experience

- Composed personality with strong interpersonal and social skills
- Caring and positive nature
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Reliability and flexibility to work on a range of tasks
- Willing to commit to this role for at least 6 months for a minimum of one session per week
- Experience of working in an art therapy environment (desirable but not essential)
- Experience working within the disability sector (desirable but not essential)
- Experience in working in a community setting (desirable but not essential)

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## Check requirements

All volunteers working with vulnerable adults/children will be required to complete a DBS check

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## Learning and development

- Complete safeguarding adults learning modules online as required
  - Attend Ouseburn Farm Volunteer Induction, Program Training and ongoing training as required
  - Attend scheduled volunteer meetings
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## General Information

- We always act in accordance with the Ouseburn Farm Code of Conduct policy
- We are a Safe Place organisation, and all volunteers are required to comply with relevant procedure
- We comply with the Workplace Health and Safety management system
- We demonstrate skill, knowledge and behaviour to work with vulnerable adults in a respectful and enriching way
- Volunteers will be reimbursed for travel in line with our Volunteer Policy
- Volunteers attending for a full day will be offered free lunch and refreshments

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## What is in it for you?

As well as making a difference to a locally loved community resource, set among the beautiful surroundings of The Ouseburn, this is a great opportunity to meet people from a wide variety of backgrounds and to gain experience of working as part of a small, dedicated team.

You will learn a lot about how we work with animals, the ethos here at Ouseburn Farm and absorbing, first-hand, the day-to-day life here.

As part of our promise to all of our volunteers, you will receive an introductory accredited Volunteer Induction as well as role specific training and support to help you carry out your volunteer role confidently and competently.

As an Ouseburn Farm Textiles/Crafts Placement Support Volunteer you will gain valuable experience in working with people with learning difficulties/disabilities which can be an incredibly positive and rewarding experience. If you are looking to get in to teaching/art therapy/care work it could greatly enhance your CV.

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