

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION

Role Title	Volunteer Gardener
Location	Ashford Hospice
Time Commitment	A minimum of one morning a week
Responsible To	Hospice Services Manager

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

To work with the other members of a Volunteer Gardening team to support the care of the gardens and grounds of the Hospice and maintain it to an excellent standard. To help create an attractive, welcoming exterior for the benefit of our patients and visitors.

KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- General gardening tasks including mowing grass, planting, pruning, weeding, watering, mulching, cutting back, potting etc., whilst keeping disruption to a minimum
- Maintaining the site, including the sensory garden, shrub borders, lawns, hedges, tree management, pots, hanging baskets and containers, pond and greenhouse.
- Help to keep the grounds clean and tidy and dispose of litter

KEY EXPERIENCE, SKILLS, ATTRIBUTES & QUALIFICATIONS

- An interest in being in the garden, no experience needed, but a willingness to be part of a team and to learn.
- An awareness of health & Safety issues in the outdoors and in the use of gardening equipment
- Ability to work on both own initiative and as part of a team
- Able to work with the minimum of supervision
- Reliable and flexible
- Good communication skills
- Knowledge of implementation of basic planting and gardening skills (*Desirable but not essential*)
- An ability to maintain confidentiality
- Good physical health
- Tact and diplomacy
- A good sense of humour
- All gardening volunteers should ensure that they have an up-to-date tetanus vaccination before starting their volunteering at the hospice

ESSENTIAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- Organisational Induction
- Role specific training including Health & Safety
- Mandatory and statutory training as and when required

WHAT WE OFFER

- The opportunity to use your skills to complement our work
- Being part of an enthusiastic team at the heart of your local community
- The opportunity to gain gardening experience with a dedicated team of volunteers
- The chance to meet new people and making friends