

<b>Role</b>	<b>Volunteer – Therapy pets</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To bring a temporary but regular animal companionship for patients in hospital/care centres.
<b>Base</b>	Community hospitals and Mental Health wards across Leicester, Leicestershire (including Hinckley & Bosworth hospital, Bradgate Mental Health Unit, Evington Centre)
<b>Hours</b>	2-3 hours per week
<b>Reports to</b>	Ward Sister
<b>Benefits of this volunteer activity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports patients to develop their health, well-being and recovery</li> <li>• Opportunity to gain experience as well as new skills and knowledge</li> <li>• Opportunity to spend time doing something you can feel proud of</li> <li>• Improve your confidence</li> <li>• Opportunity to meet new people</li> <li>• References will be given to volunteers about their time in their placement</li> </ul>
<b>Exclusions</b>	<p><b>Volunteers are not expected to be involved in any of the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moving and handling of patients</li> <li>• Patients personal care</li> </ul>
<b>Key task</b>	Visiting dogs and their owners take on a commitment to provide a service to the community by sharing their health and temperament assessed pets. Giving a therapeutic wellbeing to patients and staff during visits.
<b>Person Specification and Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pet to be registered with Pets as Therapy or similar approved organisation.</li> <li>• Good communication skills</li> <li>• Able to follow instructions</li> <li>• Willingness to help and work to time targets</li> <li>• Punctual and reliable</li> <li>• Enthusiasm for working with people and supporting them to improve their well-being and recovery</li> <li>• Able to work independently and as part of a team</li> <li>• Comfortable working in a fast-paced environment</li> <li>• Commitment to uphold trust core values and NHS policies</li> </ul>
<b>Training and Support Needs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information Governance</li> <li>• Health and Safety</li> <li>• Infection Prevention and Control</li> <li>• Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</li> <li>• Confidentiality</li> <li>• Safeguarding</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Equality and Diversity</li><li>• Local trust induction and orientation</li><li>• Any other mandatory training as specific by the trust</li></ul> <p>An enhanced DBS is required for this role. This is processed free of charge for volunteers.</p>
COVID-19 Guidance	In line with government and Leicestershire Partnership Trust advice.