

Specialist Care Team Support Volunteer (Ark-based)

We are looking for volunteers to support our Specialist Carers in the provision of play and entertainment to small groups of children and young people who visit the hospice (The Ark). Volunteers in this role will work closely with a Specialist Carer who will lead and guide all activities. **The role will not involve assisting with clinical procedures or administering medication.**

Noah's Ark take their responsibility for safeguarding the wellbeing of children seriously. This role is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Application. 2 references are also required.

Opportunities of the role:

- Gain rewarding experience of working directly with children, young people and their families
- Build knowledge of following delivering structured activities
- Develop communication sensitivity skills with children and young people in challenging circumstances

Examples of activities include:

- Arts and Crafts
- Playing outside in the playground
- Sensory play
- Songs/Music

Qualities / experience / skills needed:

- Ability to work well with others and able to follow instructions and be part of a team
- Friendly and outgoing with a good sense of humour
- Understanding of confidentiality
- A good understanding of the role and of Noah's Ark's expectations of volunteers
- Good communication skills
- Reliability, commitment and engagement
- Initiative and problem-solving skills

- A good level of self-awareness

Experience of working with children, young people or families is desirable but not essential. We welcome volunteers from all backgrounds with all sorts of skills.

Interviews, training and assessment process:

At Noah's Ark we value volunteer support, and we are also aware that not all roles are suitable for everyone. The interview and training process is in place to ensure that the Noah's Ark staff get to know more about you, to ensure that you are given the correct training for the role and so that you can find out if this is a role you would like to undertake. The training process is as follows:

- **Volunteer Information Session** All potential volunteers have to attend one of these sessions before they are able to get involved in any capacity.
- **Informal Interview** This will take place at the Noah's Ark Office / virtually at a mutually agreeable time.
- **Core Training** Any volunteers wanting to work directly with Noah's Ark families are required to attend the 3 hour training which is run at regular intervals throughout the year
- **Specialist Care training (3 hours)**
- **Safeguarding Training (3 hours)** 1 morning or 1 evening, depending on the schedule, this helps to ensure the safety of our service.

Additional training programmes are run at regular intervals throughout the year.

Responsible to: While volunteering, you will be under the supervision of the Specialist Carers and the Nurse leading the shift. You are asked to notify the nurse on duty if you are not able to attend an arranged shift due to holiday, sickness etc.

Time commitment: There will be 2 weekend groups of children per month. Volunteer shifts will fall sometime between 9am and 6pm, and may be between 4 and 6 hours long. A rota will be arranged once we know volunteers availability.



Location: The Ark, Byng Road, Barnet, EN5 4NP

Minimum age: 18 years

To apply, please return a completed Volunteer Interest Form to the Volunteering Team: volunteering@noahsarkhospice.org.uk