

Role	Volunteer – Therapy pets
Purpose	To bring a temporary but regular animal companionship for patients and staff to support their wellbeing within a hospital setting, this will include wards, meeting rooms & staff rooms.
Base	CHS & DMH
Hours	2-3 hours per week
Reports to	Ward Sister (Langley Ward and Agnes Unit) Sinead Adcock & Apexa Patel (Bradgate Mental Health Unit) Angela Henry-Woodfield (Bennion Centre & Evington Centre) Rachel Porter – (Stewart House & The Willows)
Benefits of this volunteer activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports patients to develop their health, well-being and recovery • Supports health and wellbeing of staff within the unit • Opportunity to gain experience as well as new skills and knowledge • Opportunity to spend time doing something you can feel proud of • Improve your confidence • Opportunity to meet new people • References will be given to volunteers about their time in their placement
Exclusions	<p>Volunteers are not expected to be involved in any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving and handling of patients • Patients personal care
Key task	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.
Person Specification and Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pet to be registered with Pets as Therapy • Good communication skills • Able to follow instructions • Willingness to help and work to time targets • Punctual and reliable • Enthusiasm for working with people and supporting them to improve their well-being and recovery • Able to work independently and as part of a team • Comfortable working in a fast-paced environment • Commitment to uphold trust core values and NHS policies
Training and Support Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Governance • Health and Safety • Infection Prevention and Control • Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confidentiality• Safeguarding• Equality and Diversity• Local trust induction and orientation• Any other mandatory training as specific by the trust <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.