

# Work Experience Placements & Volunteering



Join our Farm team and expand your knowledge on animal husbandry, whilst developing crucial practical animal care experience.

Here at Almond Valley Heritage Centre we always welcome committed and enthusiastic new student volunteers to help out with the operation and upkeep of the farm. However, it's important to recognise what is regularly involved in a typical day's work. Much of the work is relatively labour intensive; involving mucking out enclosures, refilling hay nets and cleaning feed buckets. It is dirty but rewarding work as you tend to livestock, interact with our visitors, enjoy good company, and develop new skills.

However, whenever working around large animals, there is always a degree of risk involved. Whilst completing your placement at Almond Valley, you will be under the supervision of our trained Farm Keepers. They are there to keep all students safe, but also to communicate with work experience students, passing on their knowledge and advice to those who are hoping to work towards a career in the industry. All of those working on the farm must fully understand and recognise the risks associated with not just the animals themselves, but the risk of animal borne zoonotic diseases - and so must maintain the highest standards of hygiene.

We receive many applications from potential farm volunteers each year, and so have now separated them into the 2 categories below. Please read the criteria carefully to first ensure that you are eligible for a placement at Almond Valley before completing the necessary application form. Any applicant that sends over a completed form but does not meet all of the criteria for a placement at Almond valley will be overlooked.

## **Work Experience Placements**

Work Experience Placements are specifically targeted to individuals who wish to gain more practical animal husbandry experience, in an effort to offer people an insight into the daily tasks and duties of day to day animal care. These placements run from Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm, for a minimum of 1 week and a maximum of 4 consecutive weeks. Prior to commencing a placement, all applicants are required to complete a Trial Day. Trial Day's run of Saturdays or Sundays, and must be completed no less than 1 week before the placement commences.

- Must be a minimum of 16 years old.
- Must be physically fit and healthy, with no pre-existing or frequently recurring injuries.
- Preferably studying an animal related course at College or University (*exceptions for this may be made depending on availability - please note that as college or university students often require this EMS placement as a mandatory part of their coursework, they will be given priority over any applicant not currently completing an animal related academic course*).

## **Long-Term Volunteer Positions**

Long-Term volunteering opportunities are open to those individuals who are currently not studying an animal related qualification at College or University. They run on Saturdays and Sundays, 9am - 5pm, for a minimum of 4 consecutive weeks. Please note, long-term volunteers may only attend a Saturday OR Sunday, so to allow for others potential volunteers to attend on the same weekend.

- Must be a minimum of 16 years old.
- Must be physically fit and healthy, with no pre-existing or frequently recurring injuries.
- Must be able to commit to a recurring pattern of weekend volunteer work for a minimum of 4 weeks.

# Work Experience/ Long-Term Volunteer Application Form

Please ensure that before completing this application you are eligible to complete either Work Experience Placements or Long-Term Volunteering. Applicants who are not eligible will be overlooked.

First Name	Surname:
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Address:
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Post Code:
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Country:
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Phone:	Email:
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	Emergency Contact No. 1	Emergency Contact No. 2
First Name:		
Surname:		
Relationship: (eg. Mother, Uncle)		
Mobile:		
Landline:		

Academic Institution:	
Contact's Name:	
Contacts Email:	
Contacts Phone:	

D.O.B:	Age:
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I hereby declare that the information provided is true and correct. I also understand that any willful dishonesty may render for refusal of this application or immediate termination of my placement .		
Name:_____	Date:_____	Signature:_____