



Volunteering

THE BLUE CROSS Animal Charity

The Blue Cross has taken a lead in animal care for over a hundred years. Today, the charity provides direct support to needy animals and their owners in many ways. They have:

- 11 adoption centres that rehome thousands of dogs, cats and other pets each year.
- Three equine centres which rehabilitate horses and ponies, offering them the best chance of finding a long-term loan home.
- Four animal hospitals provide veterinary care for the pets of people who cannot afford private vets' fees.
- Four horse ambulances that provide support to vets at horse trials and events nationwide.
- Their Pet Bereavement Support Service offers help to people mourning the loss of a pet.



THE BLUE CROSS

Britain's pet charity

Should you wish to get involved with the Blue Cross as a volunteer, please contact us info@insw1.com and we will be happy to send you the relevant details.

In the following pages you will see examples of the volunteering opportunities available.





Volunteering

ROLE DESCRIPTIONS

Receptionist

Time commitment: A 3hr shift/week
Role Available: Weekdays 9am – 5pm
 Victoria, Merton and Hammersmith hospitals

Tasks: Assisting paid staff on the reception desk during clinic hours. Meeting and greeting clients, dealing with enquiries promptly and accurately, logging details into computer and providing accurate information.

Skills and Experience Required: Excellent customer care skills and experience of dealing with the public, good telephone manner, a confidential approach, computer literate, experience of the office environment, experience of caring for animals is helpful. Over 18 only

Administration Volunteer

Time commitment: A 2-3 hr shift/week
Role Available: Weekdays 9am-5pm
 Merton hospital only

Tasks: To assist the smooth running of the hospital by helping to scan, photocopy and file records and generally provide admin assistance around the hospital.

Skills and Experience Required: Experience of office equipment and tasks. Organisational skills, an attention to detail, the ability to work alone and flexibility. Computer literacy and a confidential approach are essential. Over 18 only



Autoclaving/Theatre Assistant

Time commitment: A 3hr shift/week
Role Available: Weekdays 9am-5pm
 Merton hospital only

Tasks: Assisting the nurses in sterilising equipment for use in theatre.

Skills and Experience Required: Ability to work alone or in a team, good organisational skills, a flexible approach and possess a willingness to learn and follow instruction. Over 18 only

Vaccination Clinic Receptionist

Time commitment: Two Thursdays a month
 5.30 – 7.30pm, Victoria Hospital only

Tasks: Meeting and greeting clients, logging details into the computer and providing accurate information during our after hours Vaccination clinic.

Skills and Experience Required: Excellent customer care skills and experience of dealing with the public, a confidential approach, computer literate, experience of the office environment, experience of caring for animals is helpful. Over 18 only



Volunteering

Fundraising Volunteers

Time commitment: As and when volunteer is available at locations across London

Tasks: Helping to organise and participating in fund raising events such as dog shows, street collections, stalls at local shows, sponsored events and fun days. Some volunteers also take charge of a collection tin and place it in a local shop/pub, etc.

Skills and Experience Required: Experience in dealing with the public and in helping at fundraising events is ideal. Ability to handle cash, honesty, reliability and an enthusiasm for animals is essential. An organised and motivated individual who works well in a team.

Education Volunteers

Time commitment: 1-2 talks/term at locations across London

Tasks: This role involves liaising with and visiting local schools and youth groups and giving talks to groups of children on responsible pet ownership and the work of The Blue Cross.

Skills and Experience Required: Experience of working with groups of children and caring for a range of pets. Good communication skills, an enjoyment of sharing your animal knowledge with children, adaptable and self-motivated and able to work on your own.

Some volunteers may be able to take their own dog with them on visits if the dog passes the Blue Cross temperament test. Over 18 only

PBSS Telephone/Email Volunteers

Time commitment: A 4hr shift/week from volunteers own home

Tasks: Provide listening and emotional support on the phone or by email, to enable people to overcome feelings of grief as the result of the loss, illness or separation from a companion animal

Skills and Experience Required: Understand grief/bereavement and have experienced loss of companion animal, have warm and approachable manner, be a good listener and communicator and able to work alone and from home. Over 18 only

Speakers

Time commitment: As and when volunteer is available at locations across London

Tasks: Giving talks to adults on the work of The Blue Cross.

Skills and Experience Required: Good communication skills are essential and previous speaking experience is ideal. An enjoyment of sharing your animal knowledge and a willingness to learn about all areas of The Blue Cross. Adaptable, self-motivated and able to work alone.

Short-term Fosterer

Time commitment: A maximum of 3 months per animal. Must live near Blue Cross hospital, preferably zones 1-4 within London

Tasks: Provide a loving short term home to young or convalescing animals until they are ready to be transferred to an adoption centre.

Skills and Experience Required: Experience of owning animals is essential. Fosterers must be at home for the majority of the day and have a quiet household or spare room to separate the animal. Over 18 only
