

## **Dedham Therapy Farm CIC**

Mill Lane,  
Dedham,  
Colchester,  
Essex.  
CO7 6DH

At Dedham Therapy Farm CIC we support individuals with diverse needs, to overcome barriers to daily living using animals and outdoor activity. We are a small close knit Occupational Therapy team working collaboratively to provide a person centred service to people of all ages and ability.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an Therapy Farm Support Worker to join our friendly team. We are a unique setting, working with a diverse range of individuals. Based on the border of Essex and Suffolk, we pride ourselves in offering a therapeutic outdoor service all year round.

**Vision:** To empower people to develop, recover, or maintain their wellbeing through nature, animals and meaningful activities.

**Mission:** We provide bespoke, person-centred therapeutic services using nature, animals and occupational therapy to anyone who would benefit. We improve people's physical and mental health using Animal Facilitated Therapy and farming activities.

**Values:** Person centred, Collaborative, Inclusive, Open - minded, Diverse.

**Role** Animal Care work experience

**Salary** unpaid volunteer

**Hours** Tuesday and or Thursdays 08:30 – 12:30

**Closing Date** n/a

**Person specification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DBS</li> <li>• Manual Handling</li> <li>• Safeguarding level 2</li> <li>• Function skills/maths and English</li> <li>• Be working towards an animal care qualification at a recognised setting or online provider.</li> </ul>	
Experience/Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confident working with various livestock including, pigs, sheep, donkeys, rabbits, guinea pigs, alpacas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and Safety</li> <li>• Working as part of a team.</li> <li>• Gardening and/or woodwork.</li> </ul>
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To have animal care skills in order to work with various farm animals.</li> <li>• Ability to maintain pace in a high demand environment.</li> <li>• The ability to modify how you communicate with animals and people depending on the situation.</li> <li>• Be able to take direction.</li> <li>• Able to use own initiative.</li> </ul>	

<b>Qualities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motivated.</li> <li>• Creative.</li> <li>• Ability to work take responsibility for own actions.</li> <li>• Positive risk approach.</li> <li>• Ability to work collaboratively in a close-knit team.</li> <li>• Develop good working relationships with others.</li> <li>• Calm under pressure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An understanding of not for profit organisation.</li> <li>• Attention to detail.</li> </ul>
<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be willing to work outside all year round.</li> </ul>	

## Job Description

The post holder will

- To support the animal care team to ensure the animals health and wellbeing.
- Support and collaborate with team to adhere to all policies and procedures.
- Support animal care staff to carry out routine health checks on the animals.
- To feed animals where necessary.
- To assist with any animal care requirements i.e. assist with Vet visits, farrier appointments, being present when necessary.
- Ensure all equipment and animal housing is kept clean and safe. Making team aware of any changes or repairs necessary.
- Repair, maintain or assist with the maintenance of paddocks, hutches and enclosures when asked.
- To carry out animal care or husbandry duties.
- Stock rotation (make team aware of any required products or equipment needed) and assist with purchase of these when asked to.
- Assist in carrying out routine health care not requiring a vet.

- Work within risk assessments to ensure safety of all.
- Work collaboratively with the rest of the team.
- Establish good working relationships with other organisations.
- Work autonomously, seeking advice when appropriate.
- To cover, communicate with the team when you can't make it.
- Be creative.
- Be motivated and punctual.
- Use PPE and equipment appropriately.
- Be willing to take part in team building and training.
- Open to expand knowledge and skills relating to the setting, e.g. gardening, animal care.
- Demonstrate flexibility within your role to support the needs of the team and animals.
- To work towards goals set by your education provider and communicate these goals with the team.

**What can we offer you?**

- Personal development
- A friendly working environment.
- Opportunity to share ideas and make a real difference to our service.
- Variety in your working day.
- Develop new skills

If you require any further information about our service, please contact us.