



Job Description and Person Specification: Equine-Assisted Practitioner and Volunteer & Community Co-ordinator

Location: Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship, Dartington Hall, Devon, TQ9 6EB

Reports to: Managing Director

Hours: 28 hrs per week across 4 days (35 hrs FTE) (holidays to be taken in school holidays)

Salary: £16,800 pa pro rata (£21,000 pa FTE)

Term: 3-year fixed term contract aligned to grant funding

Role overview:

The Equine-Assisted Practitioner and Volunteer & Community Co-ordinator will support on Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship's therapeutic and education equine-assisted programmes. Working as part of a collaborative and supportive team, this role focuses on co-ordinating both the volunteer and community activity at Sirona, as well as delivering therapeutic programme activity for vulnerable groups.

Job Duties:

The role includes and involves the following:

Therapeutic activity

- Work directly with children and young people 4-25yrs and adults with a wide range of support needs delivering therapeutic, educational and other relevant equine based programmes/sessions.
- Work in partnership with children, young people, their families and other agencies, such as social services and schools. This may include attending meetings both at Sirona and sometimes off site (for which travel expenses will be paid).
- Write reports and monitor and evaluate progress of participants.
- Ensure safety and safeguarding remains at the centre of the work with children and young people and all work is risk assessed.

Volunteer activity

- Management of the volunteer programme, including supervision, induction, training and management of volunteers, apprentices, work experience students and interns to assist on programmes at the centre.

Community activity

- Promote and co-ordinate community involvement, such as assisting on the organisation of open days, visits and other events at Sirona.
- Attend off-site community events, along with volunteers, and give promotional talks to other agencies.
- Promote our sponsor a pony scheme and build links with local businesses and other organisations to build Sirona's profile.

Educational activity

- Develop horticultural activities at Sirona as part of the volunteer management role

- Assist on administration, promotion and delivery of other Sirona courses to the public for both young people and adults if required.
- Participate in the development and delivery of relevant training to the Sirona team and other agencies as required.

Broader activity

- Provide support in all aspects of horse care and centre management as required. This includes overseeing that the classroom, yard and other areas are clean and tidy at the end of the day.
- Promote the values and principles of Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship in providing support and educational opportunities to vulnerable children and young people in order to help them reach their potential.
- Work within and promote policies in relation to Equal Opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice.
- Undertake any additional and appropriate functions as required.

Skills and experience required:

	Must have/be able:	Desirable qualities
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experienced with working with different age and ability groups of young people and adults • Experience of equine-assisted therapy / learning • Competent and experienced horse skills • Have worked with young people and horses in a teaching/therapeutic capacity • Able to effectively meet the needs and communicate with different external organisations • Experienced in PR and community outreach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked within a range of equine establishments • Previous experience of volunteer management • Horticultural/environmental experience
Skills & abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to motivate and teach young people who have had adverse childhood experiences (ACE) • Be able to care for a variety of horses • Good knowledge of stable management at level to teach to BHS stage 1 / level 2 • Good team worker • Excellent communication and organisational skills • Excellent IT skills • Knowledge of health and safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have worked in a variety of positions with young people with additional needs / challenges
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree level preferred • Qualification in social work / teaching / OT • Equine qualification at Level 2 or above 	

Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equine training • Training in children / young people / supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equine-assisted learning/therapy training • Current first aid certificate
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willing to work weekends & evenings as required • Flexible with working hours • Current driving licence needed due to rural location. • The successful applicant will agree to an enhanced DBS being carried out in line with Sirona's safer recruitment policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willing to undertake training in relevant areas