

## Role Description:

### Gardening Volunteer

Volunteering for Education Futures Trust, on-site, in public areas, schools, and partner organisations. Gardening Volunteers will help EFT staff to develop our grounds to ensure they are welcoming and accessible, to remove barriers and promote engagement for the people who use our services.

Gardening volunteer activities cover our Secret Garden on site here at The Firs, community gardens, school gardens, and conservation projects.

There are three different gardening roles to choose from.

1. Within our 'Secret Garden' volunteers will be led by our site staff to develop the area into an accessible and inclusive space, developing a sensory garden that can be accessed by course participants and staff. In this role, you work alongside other gardeners and there is no participant support.
2. In children's gardening sessions, you will be guided by a member of staff. Your role will be to help set up for the session, discussing with the group lead your role during the activities, as this will vary from session to session, whilst also helping to ensure children stay safe around tools and plants, and then helping to clear away afterwards.
3. Roles working with adults can vary; some volunteers are more suited to a support role, working alongside participants who need gentle encouragement and wellbeing support. Some volunteers are more suited to helping participants in conservation, tool, and plant care. As with children's sessions, activities and your role for the session will be discussed with the group lead.

Key Aims:

Secret Garden Role:

Aim: Develop an accessible and inclusive sensory garden.

Key Activities: Work alongside other gardeners under the guidance of site staff to enhance the garden space.

Participant Interaction: None; this role focuses solely on gardening tasks.

Children's Gardening Sessions:

Our children. Our families. Our community. Registered Charity Number: 1146171 Company Number: 7852922

Aim: Facilitate gardening activities for children while ensuring their safety.

Key Activities: Set up for sessions, assist during activities, ensure safety around tools and plants, and help with cleanup.

Participant Interaction: Engage with children, providing support and guidance during the sessions.

#### Adult Gardening Roles:

Aim: Support adult participants in gardening activities, with a focus on either wellbeing support or practical gardening tasks.

Key Activities: Depending on the volunteer's suitability, tasks may include providing encouragement and wellbeing support or assisting with conservation, tool, and plant care.

Participant Interaction: Work closely with adult participants, offering support and guidance as needed.

Each role offers a different way to contribute, whether you're more interested in hands-on gardening, working with children, or supporting adults in their gardening activities. Which role are you leaning towards?