

Volunteer Role Profile



Volunteer Role

Horse Foster Yard

Volunteer Manager

Volunteer Coordinator

Where you will be based

Community

Why we want you

Blue Cross operates two Horse Adoption Centres in Burford and Rolleston on Dove. Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do, helping us rehome horses and ponies that have been made homeless.

The need for our help has never been greater, with many horses and ponies across the UK facing uncertain futures due to neglect, overbreeding, and financial hardship. Volunteers play a vital role in enabling us to find loving new homes for these animals, and we simply couldn't do it without them.

You will be offering a temporary home to horses ready for adoption, providing them with a safe and loving environment. By sharing your time and facilities, you'll help free up valuable space at our centres, enabling us to take in even more horses in need. Your contribution will play a crucial role in giving these horses the chance to recover and find their forever homes.

What you will be doing

- Providing daily care, including feeding, grooming, and exercise, for horses at your facilities
- Handling a variety of horses and ponies with different temperaments and needs—some ready for adoption, others newly rescued
- Ensuring horses receive the necessary veterinary and farrier care, keeping their health and well-being a top priority
- Helping to show horses to potential adopters and assist with the adoption process
- Maintaining accurate records of each horse's care, behaviour, and progress
- Keeping the adoption team up to date with regular communications about your foster horses

The skills you need

- You should have experience handling and caring for horses of different temperaments and needs. Whether they're nervous or confident, you'll need to be comfortable working with a variety of horses
- Fostering is a long-term commitment that requires consistent, daily care. We need volunteers who can provide that level of dedication
- You should be confident in making decisions regarding your foster horses'



- care and well-being, with guidance available from our team when needed
- You'll need to communicate regularly with the Blue Cross team via phone and email, keeping us updated on your foster horses
- You must have suitable facilities to safely care for horses, including secure fencing, shelter, and adequate space. We also require that your facilities meet certain biosecurity standards, particularly if you're fostering newly rescued horses

What's in it for you

- You'll see the real difference you make in helping horses find their forever homes. Each horse you care for gets one step closer to a brighter future
- Gain valuable hands-on experience in horse care, from daily management to handling a variety of horses with different needs
- We provide all the training you need to succeed. Our team will support you throughout the fostering process
- You'll be part of a supportive network of like-minded volunteers who share your passion for horses and animal welfare
- There's nothing more rewarding than seeing a horse you've cared for find its forever home, knowing you've played a crucial role in their journey
- Your involvement will allow us to take in more horses and help even more animals in need

Disclaimer

Online training will be required before you can begin the role.

Due to the nature of this role, we are looking for people who can commit to caring for our horses throughout the year.

We believe that every pet should enjoy a healthy life in a happy home, and we always seek to involve the best people who share our values and commitment so we can continue to help and support pet owners across the UK to achieve this. At Blue Cross, we want you to feel that you belong, without the need to hide any part of who you are. Diversity and inclusion at Blue Cross means creating an organisation where all people, regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, religion, nation or country of origin, disability, age, and socioeconomic backgrounds are welcomed, respected, supported, and have access to equal opportunities. We are working hard to reflect the world we live in and the communities we serve at every level of our organisation. As much as we have made positive advances, we consider diversity and inclusion to be a work in progress – a continual commitment that remains a priority for all of us. If you would like to talk to us about any accessibility needs that we can support with in terms of our volunteer recruitment processes, then please do get in touch. You can email volunteering@bluecross.org.uk and we can organise for



the right team member to get in touch with you for a discussion.