



Work Experience (Student Placement) Role Description

Our Student Work Placement scheme is one of the most popular placements for many schools and colleges in East Sussex. This is because it is super hands on. Students get to experience rescues of injured animals, releasing healthy animals back to the wild and are able to care for the animals ensuring they have clean cages/enclosures and fresh food and water twice a day.

We are a veterinary hospital for wildlife, which means we are a lot different to a normal vets practice. Our aim is to rescue, rehabilitate and release all the casualties back to the wild. It is vital that our animals receive the highest standard of care during their stay to ensure a speedy recovery and a stress free stay at our hospital.

Carrying out work experience at wras will allow you to gain lots of experience in different areas and give an insight as to how a wildlife rescue centre works. Whether you are looking to become a vet, a zookeeper, work in conservation or rescue work in the future, this is the best place to gain some first-hand experience!

Core duties could include-

- Providing all animals with fresh food and water
- Handle wildlife when required (training is provided)
- Clean and disinfect cages, bowls and equipment
- Clean and wash reusable bedding materials (washing machine)
- Take faecal samples when needed
- Monitor wildlife eating and weight, recording accurately on the records
- Restock all supplies in all casualty rooms
- Refill all food bins and report anything we have run out of to a member of staff
- Sorting through donations of newspaper and bedding
- Deep cleaning pens/aviaries when needed
- Bathing of swans/ducks when required
- Learn and organise rescue equipment in ambulances
- Clean and tidy areas around the centre to ensure hospital cleanliness is to a high standard
- Provide the animals with suitable enrichment for their enclosures
- Observing first aid treatment and veterinary procedures
- Experience microscope work to search for parasites in faecal samples
- Assist with new casualty admissions
- Hand feed orphan birds in the orphan room (season depending)
- Assist with packaging up our charity newsletters
- Attend rescues and releases where applicable during your placement (under close supervision of a trained volunteer rescuer or your volunteer coordinator).



Students will be asked to –

- Report any problems or questions to your Student Coordinator (Ellie)
- Report any concerns of casualties to a member of staff
- Be kind and respectful of staff and other volunteers
- Have an enthusiastic work ethic
- Use initiative to find tasks to do
- Work alongside another student if required
- Wear appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) when required
- Ensure noise levels are kept to a minimum around the hospital
- Adhere strictly to WRAS's Covid 19 Guidelines
- Be reliable, polite and committed to help during your placement
- Be able to follow instructions and follow guidelines and procedures

The hours are 10am – 6pm with an hour lunch break.

Please ensure you wear suitable clothing which you can safely work in, such as jeans/leggings, tshirt, jumper and trainers/boots.

We are at Unit 2, The Shaw Barn, Whitesmith, Lewes, East Sussex, BN8 6JD. Please ensure you have relevant travel sorted out for your placement. We have plenty of visitor parking spaces on site and a bus stop a short walk (on the main road) from the centre.

Your supervisor is Ellie Langridge.

Volunteer and Student Coordinator – 07939941962 – ellie@eastsussexwras.org.uk