

Volunteer Role Profile

Volunteer Role	Dementia Support (Knowing Me) Volunteer
Volunteer Manager	St Richard's Hospital Voluntary Services Department
Where you will be based	Hospital

Why we want you

A survey of nurses working in acute hospitals found that two fifths of patients do not have any visitors. As a volunteer, you can make a significant difference to patient care by connecting with patients, boost their spirits and help to free up staff giving them more time to focus on clinical tasks. This will, in turn, help make a difference and improve the quality of care for all patients.

What you will be doing

- Focusing on the patient's interests by using pictures/cards and other prompts e.g. pictures of gardens, cars, travel, music etc.
- Playing games with the patient such as Dominoes, cards etc. at the Patient's own pace, level of understanding and ability.
- If appropriate, encourage positive reminiscences about history relevant to the Patient e.g. where they were born, stories, jobs, news and trends.

The skills you need

- The volunteer will need to have a genuine interest in people and wanting the person with Dementia to have the best possible hospital experience.
- Confidence in talking to Families and Carers as well as being able to promote a positive approach to Dementia Care.
- Personal qualities of patience, tolerance and compassion.
- An ability to easily adapt to different situations.

What's in it for you

- Make a difference within the hospital and enhance patient care.
- Give back to the community and meet new people.
- Help to decide whether to pursue a career in healthcare.
- Join the life of your local hospital and feel part of a committed and supportive team.
- Improve your employment prospects and enhance your CV.
- Gain experience and learn new skills.
- Volunteering can be added to a university application.

Disclaimer

Each of our volunteers are required to have the following: • DBS check • Occupational Health Clearance • Risk Assessment if required Each of these will be organised by the Voluntary Services Department.