

Animal Care Assistant Job Description

Title:	Animal Care Assistant
Location:	Bedfordshire, Aspley Guise
Salary:	£11.44 per hour
Hours:	Full time 40 hours a week - 8am-5pm – including every other weekend
Term:	Permanent (3 month probationary period)
Reports to:	Centre Supervisor

Purpose of the post:

Animal Care Assistants are responsible for the general care, welfare and homing of all animals during their time in NAWT care. To engage with members of the public looking to either relinquish or rehome a pet. To promote NAWT homing and support services, including homed direct and short-term fostering. To continually provide excellent customer service to optimise animal and customer journeys.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Animal Care

- Responsible for the day-to-day care of all animals, including the cleaning and maintenance of their accommodation, feeding, exercising and grooming.
- To be responsible for delivering the required training and behaviour modification programmes to all applicable animals.
- Maintain accurate paper and electronic records to include admission, rehoming, behaviour and veterinary information.
- To ensure that any animal illness, injury or behaviour issues are recorded and reported immediately to the centre management team.

Animal Intake and Rehoming

- Positively promote all homing services, including home direct and short-term fostering opportunities.
- Ensure a compassionate, empathic, and non-judgemental approach is taken with all members of the public needing to relinquish their pet.
- Inform customers of our rehoming procedures, give advice to those wishing to rehome a pet and assist customers with any homing enquiries, providing accurate information to ensure a thorough matching process is adhered to at all times.
- Ensure animals available for homing are advertised in a positive and professional manner, focusing on evidence based matching criteria.
- Ensure all paper and electronic details are updated in a timely manner and animal information recorded where required.
- To arrange and manage animal introductions with potential owners and animals available for homing.

Other Duties

- To be welcoming to customers visiting the Centre, informing them of our procedures and being helpful at all times whilst delivering exceptional customer service at all times.
- To positively promote and contribute to centre fundraising activities at all times.
- Responsible for keeping all areas of the centre clean and tidy at all times.
- To work alongside existing centre volunteers and assist with new volunteer inductions.



- To ensure that accurate written and electronic records for animals coming into and leaving the site are updating when necessary.
- To continually maintain professional and collaborative working relationships with all colleagues whilst always maintaining a positive and friendly culture.
- To assist in other areas of centre operations when staffing levels require.
- Attend any meetings as requested, contributing positively and collaboratively.
- Attend relevant training and personal development opportunities in order to fulfil the requirements of the ACA role.
- To adhere to all NAWT policies and procedures and assist the organisation in developing, implementing and monitoring them, including Equal Opportunities and Health & Safety policies.
- To carry out any other duties relevant to the post as directed by the Supervisor or Board of Trustees

PERSON SPECIFICATION		
Experience / Skills	Desirable	Essential
A flexible approach to cope with a varied and demanding workload		Yes
Excellent communication, customer care and interpersonal skills.		Yes
The ability to work on your own and as part of a team.		Yes
Experience of working or caring for animals in an employment/voluntary environment.	Yes	
Hold a full, clean manual driving licence		Yes
Some experience of administration tasks and good organisational skills, especially the ability to prioritise workloads.	Yes	
Some knowledge of animal behaviour.	Yes	
IT skills to include Microsoft Word, Outlook and Excel.	Yes	
Experience in a customer service environment	Yes	

THE PERSON
The successful candidate will be hard working, reliable, physically fit due to the nature of the work, good humoured and a strong team player. They will have an aptitude for dealing with people and deliver excellent customer service to positively promote the work of NAWT. They will have an affinity with animals but will be able to take an objective view on the care of the animals for which they are responsible. They will be calm and assured under pressure and be able to deal with any given situation. A uniform is provided and must be worn during working hours.

THIS JOB DESCRIPTION IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE