

Farm Volunteer

Department Name:	Mary Arden's Farm - Estates
Volunteer Supervisor:	Assistant Estates, Livestock & Landscape Manager, and Livestock & Landscape Assistants

Why join us?

The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust is an independent charity that cares for the world's greatest Shakespeare heritage sites in Stratford-upon-Avon, and promotes the enjoyment and understanding of his works, life and times all over the world. Celebrating Shakespeare is at the heart of everything we do. Our volunteer team help us achieve these goals, so join us and help create a wonderful experience for our global audiences.

Mary Arden's Farm is now the home of primary education at the Trust and welcomes over 3,300 children each year from across the country. The site is kept as an organic, working farm for school pupils and community groups to engage with the animals. The farm has a range of traditional and rare breed livestock, including cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, donkeys and assorted poultry, which reflect the type of animals and breeds kept during the Tudor period. Your role will be behind-the-scenes, maintaining the site all year round so it is fit for school groups and other visitors to enjoy.

What will you be up to?

- Volunteering may include: feeding farm animals and mucking out their pens, working in the allotment space, gardening the visitor routes and play areas
- Use of traditional farming methods such as hedge laying, hand-milking and sheep shearing
- Work in a team with other volunteers and farm staff. This may include corporate volunteer groups
- Report any damage or areas of concern to your volunteer supervisor
- Familiarise and follow the SBT Health and Safety Policy so that all the team and visitors are safe and have the best experience possible

Do you have the skills we are looking for?

- You should be comfortable to be outdoors throughout the year
- Some experience working with farm animals is desirable but not essential
- Heavy lifting optional; manual handling training will be provided
- Knowledge of organic farming/gardening methods, or willingness to learn

How often would we like you to volunteer?

A regular commitment of 4 hours or above would be ideal. The regular volunteering day is Thursday, but there is also some flexibility for volunteering on a Tuesday or Wednesday.

Good to know

- Please come prepared for all weathers
- Volunteers should wear sturdy footwear (safety boots preferred) and clothes that you don't mind getting dirty
- Smoking is not allowed on site
- Food is allowed in our welfare areas on site
- Training will be provided on the following:
 - SBT induction
 - Site specific information
 - Health and safety
 - Manual handling

Benefits of joining us

- Become a part of a fun and committed team of people
- Improve your skills and knowledge
- Enjoy the outdoors and learn something new
- On completion of 20 hours volunteering for the Trust, all volunteers receive a volunteer card giving free entry to SBT properties and a range of discounts
- Annual service award for active volunteers, as well as other socials throughout the year
- We can provide references
- We can provide reimbursement of travel and parking expenses only
- You can be involved in our Volunteer Forum: Volunteer Champions



Have any questions...

volunteering@shakespeare.org.uk

01789 204016