



## Sheet 9. Working or volunteering with us

*Training is vital and on-going*

*“While we have a policy of preferring to recruit staff locally, from time to time we do source staff from further afield. So don’t hesitate to apply.”*



### *Commitment to training*

We are highly committed to the training and development of our team of carers and support staff.

Our care home offers specialist dementia services, with all our staff receiving up-to-date training, to ensure we deliver effective services tailored around an individual’s needs. We have developed new and creative ways to improve the experience for our residents, which includes a unique staff-training programme.

The full training programme consists of NVQ level 3 in health and social care, first aid, moving and handling, administration of medication, fire safety, Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults, infection control, Equality and diversity, Health and Safety, person centred care with dignity, pressure sore care, nutrition, and feeding and swallowing and many other programmes that may be needed to care for an individual’s needs.

The thoroughness of this programme ensures our staff deliver an excellent quality of care – and this is the reassurance that families and residents need that Westthorpe Hall provides the right level of skilled staff.

### *Apprenticeships*

As part of our commitment to training we also regularly take on apprentices. This scheme is designed to introduce young people to the work experience and our aim is to see them qualified up to the level three NVQ in health and social care.

If you want to discuss the possibility of an apprenticeship please contact our office on 01449 781691.

### *DBS*

All new staff must also undergo criminal record checking through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).



## *We also encourage volunteering*

### *We want our local community to be involved*

We see Westhorpe Hall as having a valuable role to play in our local community, which is why we have adopted our 'open doors' policy.

### *Multi-generation needs*

We believe in the benefits of multi-generation contact. Many children and those at the other end of the age spectrum can benefit and learn a lot from each other. This is why any of our locals who'd like to spend time with our residents are very welcome to do so, whatever their age.

### *Wide choice of opportunities*

What could you do? The choice is wide. For instance, as part of a young person's Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme challenge they could meet with our residents – perhaps by practically explaining how to use new technology to them, or by arranging to entertain some. Or it could be a desire to practice playing an instrument (pianists are especially welcome as our residents really enjoy sing-a-longs) where their endeavour will be greatly appreciated. Or it may just be dropping by to get to know some of our 'guests', sharing skills with them, or simply having a cup of tea and a chat. Whatever you want to do, feel free to drop in.

If you'd like to make a contribution, then give our Manager a call in advance to set up a visit. Alternatively, get in contact via email: [activities@westhorpehall.co.uk](mailto:activities@westhorpehall.co.uk)

### *DBS*

As with our care staff, all volunteers will need to be DBS checked (this is **free** for volunteers).