



## Volunteer Role Description

**Title:** Harvest Garden Volunteer

**Purpose of role:** This is a great opportunity for volunteers to use and develop their skills in growing their own fruit and vegetables. We are seeking volunteer gardeners, both experienced and beginners, to help us expand and maintain our community fruit and veg plot in Preston Park. This demonstration garden aims to demonstrate the benefits of home-grown produce and inspire people to try growing new things.

### Outline of tasks:

During the expansion of the garden, volunteer workdays are scheduled to take place on 15, 16, 21, 22, 23 February and 2, 3, 4, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17 March, usually from 10am to 2 or 3pm. Tasks will include building and filling the new raised beds, paths and fencing. Once the expansion is complete, we will need a team of regular volunteers that can:

- Maintain the demonstration garden, including watering, weeding, maintaining the beds, containers and other materials on site.
- Inform the general public about the demonstration garden and the Food Partnership.
- Offer advice on growing to members of the public.
- Work with other volunteers and members of the Food Partnership.

**Time commitment:** Flexible – work on the garden will take place during daylight hours mostly during the week but also at weekends. During the build of the garden, we ask that volunteers confirm what workdays they plan to attend.

**Location:** This opportunity will be based at the Harvest Brighton & Hove demonstration growing garden in Preston Park, Brighton. The garden is located in the south end of the park, just beyond the Rotunda Café.

**Support of supervision available:** The volunteer will be offered regular contact with the Harvest Growing Officer to check in on progress in the role and any development needs.

**Training offered or required:** The volunteer will receive an induction upon starting which covers health and safety issues. Less-experienced gardeners will have the opportunity to learn from others with more experience and volunteers may have the opportunity to attend Harvest training courses.

**Expenses:** Volunteer travel expenses and refreshments are covered by the Food Partnership.

**Skills, qualities or experience required for the role:** Experience and knowledge of growing fruit and vegetables is desirable, but beginners can also be paired with more experienced volunteers to learn more. Any skills in carpentry or building are also welcome during the build stage (Feb-March). We are also seeking people with an interest in food issues and sympathy with the aims of the Food Partnership and the Harvest project.

### **About the Food Partnership:**

The Brighton & Hove Food Partnership is a membership organisation that is working towards a sustainable food system for Brighton & Hove. We believe that healthy people make a healthy city and that all residents should be able to enjoy food that is nutritious and produced in ways that respect the environment, animals and people.

We undertake lobbying work and provide training and information to achieve:

- better access to affordable fresh, seasonal food
- more locally produced food
- more opportunities to learn to cook and grow food
- a better understanding of the links between food and health
- a better understanding of where food comes from.

Our projects include community cookery, healthy weight service, food waste campaign, the Sticky Fingers project for schools in East Brighton and Harvest Brighton & Hove.

### **About Harvest:**

Harvest is all about growing and eating local food. From window boxes to community farms, there are opportunities for everyone to join in. Harvest has brought together lots of different organisations interested in food who will help you learn to grow your own, make use of surplus produce and eat more tasty local food.

We want to increase the amount of food grown in the city: on windowsills, in back gardens, in allotments, and in community spaces like parks and around housing estates. We are scrumping apples from trees around the city to prevent waste and make delicious juices and chutneys. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved: through volunteering at a project, coming on a training course, or attending one of our community food events.

We want to ensure that fresh, local produce is available and accessible equally to all residents in Brighton & Hove.

### **Contact us to discuss or find out more:**

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