



## **Work Experience Placements** **14 - 17yr olds**

**About the Farm:** Stepney City Farm is a community based City Farm and Rural Arts Centre, set up in 1979. Our aim is to offer people the opportunity to learn about food production and to experience a taste of rural life. Volunteers play a crucial role in the running of the farm, often working with animals, plants and crafts.

**How it Works:** We offer one or two week work experience placements. Opportunities are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, although applicants from the London Borough of Tower Hamlets get priority over others. If you would like to come back at the end of your placement then please tell us and we will try to arrange for this to happen.

**Hours:** During your placement you can work Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 5pm. There is a one hour lunch break, normally taking place 1:00pm – 2:00pm.

**Food:** Lunch is provided. You may want to bring a water bottle.

### **What to Bring;**

- Completed application form
- Sturdy footwear (there are some wellies available at the farm)
- Suitable clothing that you don't mind getting muddy and that is suited to the weather (e.g. rain coat if it is raining, very warm clothes in winter)
- Work experience diary, if applicable.

**Safety on the Farm:** All of our activities are assessed for risk and at the beginning of the placement you will receive a comprehensive Health and Safety induction. You will be shown how to carry out your tasks by members of our staff.

**Additional Support:** Some volunteers who come to us need a higher level of support than we are able to offer. It may be that they are not able to work independently or have health conditions that means they can't be left alone. In these circumstances, we ask that a support worker attends with the volunteer in order to help them with the activity. Please get in contact if you wish to discuss this further.

**Tasks and Duties:** Work experience students are given a wide variety of tasks providing insight into different areas of our working farm. We can tailor your placement to fit your interests so please let us know if you are keen to learn about particular area of our work.



**Animal Tasks:** There will be opportunities to work with the rabbits, ferrets, guinea pigs, chickens, ducks and geese. Where possible and with the necessary supervision you may also get the chance to work with the goats, pigs and donkeys. Typical tasks include;

- Feeding and watering
- Handling, walking and grooming
- Cleaning the animal housing

**Gardening Tasks:** We have a lot of different fruit, vegetables and herbs growing at the farm which we sell in the farm shop or use in the cafe. School groups and young volunteers have also taken part in designing, creating and maintaining a Children's Garden. Regular tasks include;

- Harvesting crops to sell to the public
- Planting seeds and nurturing them to be healthy, adult plants
- Watering and weeding

**Schools and Education Work:** The farm employs two Education Officers that work closely with a number of different Nursery and Primary Schools throughout the year. You may be assigned to support them in delivering farm tours, curriculum linked lessons or animal handling sessions.



**Rural Arts:** Stepney City Farm is home to a Rural Arts Centre with a blacksmith's forge, a woodworker and a potter. If they are busy working on a project there might be opportunities to give them a hand. You will be well supervised, shown how to use any tools safely and only asked to do activities you feel happy doing.

**Office Work:** Our office is always busy with farmers working behind the scenes working on that keeps the farm going. Tasks students have helped with before have included laminating, photocopying, conducting a survey with visitors to the farm and creating a report on the research.

**What Next?** Get in touch to check our availability for work experience placements. You will need to complete an Application Form in order to confirm your placement and we will then invite you in for an informal interview.

**For all enquiries/applications, please contact:**

Alex Collings, Farm Education Officer [alex@stepneycityfarm.org](mailto:alex@stepneycityfarm.org) 020 7790 8204  
Stepney City Farm, Stepney Way, E1 3DG  
[facebook.com/stepneycityfarm](https://www.facebook.com/stepneycityfarm)  
[@StepneyCityFarm](https://www.instagram.com/StepneyCityFarm)