

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Volunteering at **Devon Equine Crisis Support**.

We are based at Home Park Farm in Ipplepen which is just off the Totnes Road.

Spending time with horses and the good old outdoors is good for you! It's official! And we have the perfect antidote to the winter blues! 🍁🍂

Volunteering to help with the horses is on a totally commitment free basis. You can stay for an hour or all day, it is your choice. With lots of ponies and horses to look after, there is always something to do, and there are a variety of things you could be involved with. The following is just a few of the things volunteers have typically been involved with.

- 🐾 Groom a muddy pony (cuddles allowed),
- 🐾 Help sort our mountain of rugs and horsy items for a tabletop sale
- 🐾 Sell items online for DECS,
- 🐾 Muck out a stable and lay down new bedding
- 🐾 Fill up stable water buckets
- 🐾 Pick up pony poops from the field in a wheelbarrow
- 🐾 Fundraising – ideas are welcome and helping at a car boot or tabletop sale is very helpful.
- 🐾 Filling hay nets and hanging them up in the stables.
- 🐾 Making up feeds – **(with help)**
- 🐾 Tidying the yard

To visit the yard, you firstly need an appointment with the charity founder Melissa Middleton as she will show you around and explain a few things to you.

If you have experience of handling horses, you may be asked to lead a horse, and you must wear a hard hat to do this. If you are happy, you may be asked to take ponies on a walk with a regular experienced volunteer. A high vis bib and a hard hat must be worn on the roads, and you must be accompanied.

You **MUST**: Wear wellies and suitable wet weather gear, ideally waterproof trousers and gloves.

It might be useful to bring water, a hot flask and maybe a snack in the winter depending on how long you want to help.

Be over 16 and accompanied by an adult under 18.

Yard rules to be always followed. Gates must be always shut.

Health and Safety declaration – there is a form to sign when you start which says you are responsible for your own safety when on the premises. Melissa will go through this with you.

Message Mel Middleton direct on Facebook, phone her on [01626 785382](tel:01626785382) or apply in writing to info@devonequinecrisisupport.org.uk

