

PAT Volunteer Team Visits Agreement

The primary aim of Pets As Therapy is to bring regular animal companionship and comfort to patients/residents in hospitals, hospices, nursing homes, schools and other establishments by means of visits from volunteers and their registered temperament-tested pets.

Since the start of the Pets As Therapy journey in 1983, over 26,000 dogs have been registered with us. Every year some of these retire and new dogs and cats, having first passed our assessment on health, temperament, suitability and stability grounds, join us to become, with their owner, a proud 'PAT Team'.

Our PAT teams can only visit establishments that are registered with us. Online registration is easy and takes only a couple of minutes. Just ask the manager of the Establishment to complete the short [Request a PAT Visit form](#).

There is an annual contribution of £60 towards the costs of administering the service for each **new** volunteer placement agreed.

PAT Volunteer Team Visits

- Only one registered PAT pet can accompany the volunteer on a visit. Volunteers are not insured to visit with an unregistered pet or multiple animals.
- Establishments must make the PAT volunteer aware of any Health and Safety procedures and regulations that you require them to follow.
- Pets As Therapy asks that the establishments agree to ensure that our volunteers and their PAT dogs/cats are treated with respect and dignity during their visits to you. They are bound by our policies and procedures and should never be asked to contravene these by putting their PAT pets or themselves at risk in any way.
- PAT Volunteer Teams must be accompanied by a member of the establishment's staff at all times and never left alone with a service user.
- The Establishment should nominate a designated member of their staff as a point of contact to direct and support our volunteer.
- The PAT Volunteer holds their PAT dog or cat on a lead at all times to ensure that they have full control of their pet should an emergency situation arise.
- The PAT volunteer and their pet must display the correct photographic PAT ID badges as issued by the Charity.
- The Establishment must check that the PAT volunteer's badge is still in date and valid. Volunteers with old badges are no longer covered by PAT insurance.

In the event that there is an incident where either one of our volunteers or their pet is involved, they are required by Pets As Therapy to notify Head Office.

If you require a copy of the Volunteers Handbook or any other information or have any concerns which you would like to discuss, please call Head Office on 01865 671440.

We hope that you will receive many visits from our very special volunteers and their companion animals and that all your staff and patients/clients will feel the proven benefits of our service.

RISK ASSESSMENT

IDENTIFYING THE RISK	RISK RATING	CONTROL MEASURES	OUTCOME
Covid 19 - Contact with others	Medium/ Low	PAT volunteer and establishment must adhere to the latest government guidelines at all times. If any member of staff, patients/residents or the PAT volunteer have displayed symptoms of COVID-19 or have been contacted by NHS Test & Trace, they must defer the visit for a minimum 14 days.	Low
Covid 19 - Spreading the Virus via contact with PAT dog	Low	As with the recommendations designed to limit spread, basic hygiene measures must be implemented. Members of staff and pupils must wash/sanitise your hands before and after contact with a PAT pet. More information can be found on the World Organisation for Animal Health website which has specific advice on companion animals and coronavirus.	Low
Hygiene issues from dogs Allergies to dogs	Low	Only registered Pets As Therapy Dogs to be involved as they are vaccinated, wormed and flea protected in accordance with Pets As Therapy Policy. Service users to use hand gel after touching dog. Owner to ensure dog has opportunity to relieve itself outside premises.	Low
Will the volunteer be exposed/come into contact with any specific/unusual hazards/risks	Low	Ensure that the volunteer is informed of these risks and precautions necessary. Ensure that a risk assessment exists for the particular hazard.	Low
Members of staff inexperienced around dogs	Low	The PAT volunteer will control the dog at all times in accordance with the Pets As Therapy volunteer handbook .	Low

Please sign the form below (Visit Confirmation and Acceptance PAT7), take a copy for your records, then email or post:

Reception (Ref: PAT7)

Pets As Therapy
59 Monument Business Park
Warpsgrove Lane
Chalgrove
Oxfordshire OX44 7RW

Tel: 01865 671440
Email: reception@petsastherapy.org

VISIT CONFIRMATION AND ACCEPTANCE – PAT7

Please complete and sign as confirmation that you have read the PAT Volunteer Team Visits Agreement and Risk Assessment and agree to the conditions as laid out in that document.

ESTABLISHMENT DETAILS	BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE
ESTABLISHMENT NAME:	
POSTCODE:	ID NO:
CONTACT NAME:	POSITION:
EMAIL:	TEL NO:
SIGNATURE:	DATE:
VOLUNTEER DETAILS	BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE
NAME:	
PAT REFERENCE NO:	PET'S NAME:
SIGNATURE:	DATE: