

Do I need to have experience in this type of work?

Ideally you will have some care experience and be qualified in care. However, we also know everyone has to start somewhere and we do recruit staff with no care experience if you demonstrate the right qualities and we will train you. We believe sound training is essential for success and we offer college study, in our time, at our cost and we give you study time! Staff commence on salary scales according to their qualification and experience and due to our size there are lots of opportunities for training.

If you consider yourself to be caring, enthusiastic, patient, fun loving, considerate, supportive and a good team worker then we would love to hear from you! There is usually a requirement to cover a variety of shifts, including sleep-ins and weekend working. A full UK driving licence is also essential for most posts.

Volunteering

We are always looking for volunteers to work in all areas of the Trust. If you can give a few hours each month and have a particular skill we would love to hear from you.

We think it is a worthwhile cause to work for
We hope you would too

For further information on our current vacancies visit our website www.c-o-t.org.uk and follow the job opportunities link or contact:

**Personnel Department
Canterbury Oast Trust
Highlands Farm
Woodchurch
Ashford
Kent TN26 3RJ
☎ 01233 861493 x 255
✉ cp@c-o-t.org.uk**

Do you know we also own and run the



**South of England Rare Breeds Centre
Woodchurch
and
The Coterie Tea Rooms in Rye
where many of our service users work.**

Canterbury Oast Trust

Recruitment Information

*Providing opportunities
for people with
learning disabilities*



Who are we?

Canterbury Oast Trust is a registered charity which has been creating homes, choices and opportunities for people with learning disabilities since 1985. Whilst our Head Office is based at Woodchurch near Ashford, we have 11 residential homes and 6 community supported living houses in the following locations:

**Woodchurch: Aldington: Rye:
Ashford and New Romney.**

COT residential homes offer long-term residential care in small, family style homes for over 69 adults and our community supported homes allow 22 adults with learning disabilities to live independently as tenants with required support. Our philosophy is simple that people with disabilities can play a fulfilling and meaningful role in society.

We earnestly believe that everyone has the right to:

Opportunities:

to learn and develop skills and to take on responsibilities

to experience leisure, social and educational activities

Choices:

of work and lifestyle, where to live, what work and training to do and how to spend leisure time

Everyday life experiences so often denied to people with learning disabilities.



What employment opportunities do we offer?

Canterbury Oast Trust employs nearly 300 staff, distributed as follows:

70% **Care Staff:**

including Community Support Services Staff, Support Workers, Team Leaders, Home Managers and Area Managers who all work together to support our service users in their day to day lives and to encourage them to take up opportunities.

20% **Life Skills Project Staff:**

who work to provide choices of life skills training in various activities including horticulture, arts and crafts, farm work, woodcraft, catering, information technology, music and dance.

10% **Specialist Staff:**

including Finance, Fundraising, Marketing, Facilities and Personnel.

We often have opportunities to join us on a full-time, part-time or casual basis.



What is support work?

Able adults often take for granted cooking, cleaning, shopping, day trips plus entertaining with friends. We want people who use COT's services to experience all the normal activities of a home, to enable them to take charge of their lives and this would not be possible without well trained staff.

COT staff work alongside the service users supporting them in their day to day lives, from helping them in their home, to writing a letter, cooking, going shopping, swimming or driving them to college.

Our professional staff who work within Residential Services operate a "key worker" system to enable trust and confidence to be built.