



Object Handling Volunteer Role Profile

Reporting to:

Museum Assistant Team Leader / Duty Manager

Alongside our main collection, the museum has a number of objects that form our Handling Collection. This resource gives visitors the opportunity to see historic objects up close and in some cases, handle the objects themselves.

We are recruiting for volunteers to facilitate our object handling sessions in the museum, which helps us improve our visitor experience.

We have a number of subject boxes, such as the Crimean War box, which contains a Crimean war medal, a victoria cross and a replica of Nightingale's lamp.

Our Victorian Life box contains coins, writing implements and a miser's purse, just like Nightingale's one that we have in our main collection!

This opportunity will allow you to learn about each of these boxes and how they tell the story of Nightingale's life, as well as give you the opportunity to further research other objects and help us to expand our object handling sessions with new subject boxes.

Our object handling volunteers will engage with the public by initiating conversations about the objects in front of them, asking questions and guiding visitors to expand their knowledge through the objects.

Our session times are:

2pm-5pm term time weekdays

10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm on weekends and weekdays during school holidays

Who are we looking for?

If you are aged 18 or over, are friendly and welcoming, and are interested in supporting the museum, we want to hear from you!

The role will suit someone who:

- Enjoys working with people of all ages

- Has good verbal communication and customer service skills, or wishes to improve these skills
- Has the ability to take initiative and work well independently or as part of a team
- Has an interest in museums and history, in particular nursing history
- Would like experience of working with museum collections

Your commitment to us:

- Ideally one session a week for a minimum of 4 hours
- A period of at least 3 months to enable us to invest time in training you and to offer a fuller experience
- To work within our procedures including all those relevant to Health and Safety and the security of our collections
- To work within our Equality and Diversity policy, being respectful to individuals, whether they be customers, staff, volunteers or others in the museum.

What we can offer you:

- Training on how to handle historical objects safely
- Opportunity to gain experience working in a museum environment
- Opportunity to develop new skills and gain valuable work-related experience
- Opportunity to develop communication skills and gain experience in working with people of different ages and backgrounds
- Opportunity to engage with history
- Reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses in line with the Museums policies

Next steps:

Complete the application form and email to: info@florence-nightingale.co.uk. We will then be in touch with you to discuss your application.