

Volunteer Role Description

Title:	Peer Supporter
Location:	Maternity Wards
Hours of duty:	Flexible, no fixed hours
Accountable to:	Senior Midwife & Volunteer Services Manager
Reports to:	Senior Midwife

Role Summary

To be available to provide information for the support, promotion and protection of breastfeeding.

Main Duties

- To offer new mothers the information to support her choice of how to feed her baby.
- To establish and maintain a good working relationship with ward staff and other breastfeeding peer supporters.
- To be aware of all the breastfeeding peer support available in Wolverhampton.
- To actively listen to each mother's experiences and worries.
- To discuss the importance of correct positioning and attachment, dolls are available to demonstrate correct positioning and attachment.
- To discuss the benefits of skin to skin contact.
- To discuss the benefits and demonstrate hand expression, models are available.
- To discuss Department of Health guidance on exclusive milk feeds for first 6 months.
- To ensure the mother is aware of all national and local breastfeeding support contact details.
- To refer mothers to their midwife, health visitor or GP, if they have medical or clinical queries.

Skills & Experience Required

- Personal experience of breastfeeding
- Commitment to attend Peer Supporter Training provided by the Trust
- Understanding of the importance of confidentiality, infection control and multi-cultural issues (training provided).

Other Requirements

- **Medical:** Satisfactory medical clearance from Occupational Health Department.
- **Disclosure and Barring Service:** Satisfactory enhanced DBS disclosure required.
- **References:** two required.
- **Volunteer Agreement:** to be signed by volunteer and RWH Trust.