



Volunteer Role Description

Kearsney Parks Tour Volunteer

About Kearsney Parks

Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens are the most popular, historic parks in Dover. They are located 2.5 miles north west of Dover town centre in the Alkham Valley, next to the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Both parks are carefully designed landscapes. Thousands of tonnes of earth were moved, and trees planted to create the slopes, woods, water courses and lakes.

The River Dour, a spring-fed chalk stream, flows through the parks. Combined with ornamental lakes, this gives the parks a picturesque landscape style. The origins of both parks can be traced back to grand country houses and estates built for prominent local industrialists in the early 19th and 20th centuries.

Tour volunteer

Join our fantastic volunteer team in meeting and greeting visitors to our parks.

We are looking for confident, effective communicators who have a positive attitude to working with visitors to enhance their visit to the parks. Visitors are often unaware of the history and evolution of our parks. Your role will be to provide them with essential information to help them learn about the history, pointing out fascinating and fun facts and unexpected details to help make their visit a more enjoyable experience.

We need tour volunteers all year round although over the summer months visitor numbers tend to peak. If you would like to make a real difference to Kearsney Parks, this is a great volunteer opportunity.

Time

Flexible time commitment, you will be contacted in advance. Ideally volunteers should be available once every couple of months but this may increase over the summer months.

Skills and experience required

- to be a friendly and welcoming face to the visitors of our parks
- confident and effective communicator
- ability to share knowledge and information about the history of the Kearsney parks (full training and information will be provided)
- knowledge of the wildlife, trees and plants that are found in our parks (full information will be provided)
- enthusiastic about Kearsney Parks





The benefits of the role

This role will give you the opportunity to:

- learn about the evolution and history of Kearsney Parks
- meet new people and make new friends and dedicate yourself to a rewarding role
- develop new skills and take on new challenges
- help Kearsney Parks run more smoothly and make a difference to the local environment

What Kearsney Parks will provide

In return for your valuable help we aim to ensure that volunteering for Kearsney Parks is a fulfilling and worthwhile experience. We will provide:

- induction and training with ongoing support
- refreshments
- further training where applicable

Kearsney Parks is open to volunteers from all backgrounds. Anyone who would like to get involved is welcome to apply.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

Volunteers who will be directly and significantly involved with children or vulnerable adults will be required to undergo a DBS check.

How to apply

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact kearsney.parks@dover.gov.uk, requesting a volunteer registration form. This completed form can be returned to the same email address. Or, you can write to Kearsney Parks, Dover District Council, Dover, Kent CT16 3PJ.

What happens after your application?

An informal chat with the appropriate person will then be arranged. At this point, all general information about the organisation and specifically about the volunteer post will be provided.

This role description provides a summary of the volunteer role. However, it is not a legally binding document.

