



## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**JOB TITLE:** Head Equine Nurse

**REPORTING TO:** Director

**LOCATION:** Ashbrook Equine Hospital, Middlewich Road, Allostock, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 9JQ

**DATE WRITTEN:** January 2026

### **OVERVIEW:**

Our aim is to treat our patients as though they were our own animals, and to treat our clients in the way we would wish to be dealt with ourselves.

This philosophy should be carried through at all levels, in terms of our demeanour, appearance, professionalism and communication (between vets, clients, external providers such as laboratories and staff). We all have a part to play in ensuring the smooth running of the various aspects of the practice.

All staff are expected to work to the highest of clinical standards.

Support and training will be provided to ensure these standards of clinical excellence are attained.

### **Purpose of position**

Responsibility for creating and maintaining the highest standards of nursing care and professional performance.

Work as part of the practice leadership team to ensure smooth running of the hospital managing inpatients, day patients, theatre nursing, imaging, out of hours work and appropriate cleaning of all clinical areas.

To lead the nursing team in order to maintain and develop high quality veterinary services to equine clients.

### **General Duties**

1. Organisation of the nurse team - daily work task assignment and ooh rota.

2. Team leader management role including holiday sanctioning, recording sickness and return to work interviews.
3. Line management of nursing and yard team to include PDRs (personal development reviews).
4. Responsibility and coordination for ensuring equipment maintenance is up to date.
5. Responsibility and coordination for ensuring lab machine QC and maintenance.
6. Promote a positive, collaborative working environment and uphold clinical standards across all areas.
7. Perform all nursing duties to the highest quality.
8. Assist the veterinary surgeons appointments and in theatre within the RCVS code of practice.
9. Ensure good client care during admission and discharge of equine cases from the hospital.
10. Operate computer systems as directed for patient records, updating records, producing consent forms, generating invoices and day to day procedures.
11. Dispense medicines as directed by a veterinary surgeon, with correct labelling and invoicing.
12. Docket all clinic work for the office team to input to the computer system in a timely manner.
13. Ensure the cleaning regime within the practice is followed.
14. Cleaning and sterilising of surgical instruments.
15. Complete lab work correctly and efficiently following all guidelines and ensure lab work is booked out.
16. Assist or complete under guidance all x-ray procedures, ensuring the radiographic guidelines are adhered to.
17. Assist in maintenance of good stock control in all areas of the practice.
18. Ensure all documentation and patient records are maintained and medications are correctly supplied to patients.
19. Advise clients on all aspects of general equine healthcare and the relevant products associated with this.
20. Ensure out of hours rota is adhered to, to ensure the hospital is always manned.
21. Complete veterinary nurse training and NPL as appropriate and as directed by manager.
22. Attend CPD as requested by your Manager.
23. Perform reception duties if requested to the best of their ability.
24. Participate in stock takes as requested.

### **Principals of Practice:**

You must seek to ensure the health and welfare of animals committed to your care and fulfil your professional responsibilities, by maintaining five principles of practice:

1. Professional competence
2. Honesty and integrity
3. Independence and impartiality
4. Client confidentiality and trust
5. Professional accountability

### **Additional notes:**

At Ashbrook we offer a full range of equine veterinary services, from routine vaccinations to specialised surgery. Our experienced ambulatory vets travel throughout Cheshire and the surrounding areas on a daily basis to visit and examine horses at home. For more complex conditions, horses may be brought to our purpose built Hospital for further diagnostic and treatment.

Our hospital is the only Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Approved Tier 3 Equine Hospital in Cheshire. This means we have passed a rigorous inspection and have met the highest standards possible for Equine Hospitals. Onsite facilities include a large operating theatre, a diagnostic imaging suite with digital radiography, ultrasonography and video endoscopy, a standing MRI scanner and an isolation unit. A.I. facilities include stallion collection and foal nursing.

We are looking for a self-motivated individual, to lead the nursing team of the hospital.

The successful candidate will have exceptional horse handling skills, be able to fulfil onsite out of hours cover (1:5) following training and work with enthusiasm and care. Ideally the successful candidate will have previous experience of line management. You will be joining a team of:-

- 7 vets
- 6 nursing team
- 5 Receptionists / Administrators
- 1 Yard Person

Car parking is available at our premises.

This is a full-time role based on working an average of 37.5 hours per week and includes working an OOH rota which is 1:6 (sometimes 1:5 depending on team numbers) and involves staying in our purpose-built accommodation on site.

Holiday entitlement is 30 days per year (including Bank Holidays) with the opportunity to buy or sell extra holidays. Benefits also include a workplace pension scheme, uniform, colleague pet discounts, life insurance at 1 x annual salary and enhanced maternity and paternity benefits. We also offer Healthshield benefits which cover the everyday health needs of our teams by providing cashback for dental, optical and physiotherapy costs, alongside offering wellness services such as a Virtual GP Surgery and Employee Assistance Programme (EAP). One day paid for volunteering for a charity per year. A CPD allowance is in place based on 1 day and £250 per year for full-time hours.

To apply please forward your CV and covering letter to [recruitment@willowsvetgroup.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@willowsvetgroup.co.uk) quoting job reference 80. Applications will close when a suitable candidate is found.