



SHARECommunity

Self Help Association for Rehabilitation
and Employment for People with Disabilities

Focus on ability

Horticulture Course

OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN

City and Guilds NVQ in Horticulture Level 1.

City & Guilds NVQ in Production Horticulture Level 2

SHARE's horticulture course offers training and work experience in a wide range of practical gardening activities. Trainees work at their own pace to develop practical skills and knowledge about plants and horticultural work.

Trainees who have done the basic training can now work towards NVQ Levels 1 and 2 in Production Horticulture. This course focuses on plant production. Trainees have the chance to select and grow a wide range of crops for use in the SHARE garden and for sale to regular SHARE customers. We also offer LOCN qualifications.

SHARE has a 2.5 acre walled garden in the grounds of Springfield Hospital, Tooting. The garden is the main training area for this project. We have large polytunnels in which we work all year round, producing bedding plants, herbs, plants from bulbs, and decorative plants. We also arrange work placements at other horticulture centres in the local area.

Trainees also learn about health and safety in the workplace, communication skills, and how to develop personal effectiveness. Trainees usually find that taking part in this project improves their self confidence, self esteem, and ability to concentrate. Working on the horticulture project has the added benefits of fresh air and exercise in a stimulating, friendly, supportive and attractive environment.

We make sure that every trainee has a personal development plan that is tailored to their individual needs. Trainees are encouraged to work at their own pace and to work within the group to help develop knowledge and increase confidence.

POTENTIAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The above skills can lead to career opportunities in:

Parks and Gardens

Nurseries and Garden Centres

Landscape Gardening

Interior landscaping and plant maintenance

KEY COMPONENTS

- **Preparing, planting areas**
Using hand tools - digging, forking, raking.
- **Planting crops**
Including vegetables, cut flowers and bedding plants.
- **Caring for crops**
Weeding, pruning, watering and feeding.
- **Harvesting crops**
- **Decorative work**
Preparing hanging baskets and planters for garden events or for sale at SHARE's stall at Wandsworth Show.
- **Propagation of plants**
From seed and cuttings.
- **General maintenance of the garden and nursery**
Grass cutting, pot washing, leaf raking.
- **Identify and control pests and diseases.**