

Volunteering at the Reserve is open to all over the age of 18, or over 16 if accompanied by an authorised adult.

If special arrangements including group visits/activities/under-16s are required, please contact the email address via the website [www.gazensalts.co.uk](http://www.gazensalts.co.uk)

- An adult carer must accompany any volunteer who is a vulnerable adult needing specialist care and support, in accordance with the Reserve's Safeguarding policy
- To abide by Gazen Salts Nature Reserve Health & Safety policy, all regular volunteers working at the Reserve must complete a volunteer registration form, including details of next of kin and emergency contact number
- All new volunteers will be given a briefing before starting to help on the reserve
- Volunteers will not be allowed to operate any specialist equipment (other than general conservation/gardening tools) without evidence of proper training or experience
- Volunteers should exercise caution at all times. Gazen Salts Nature Reserve is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and is subject to minor vandalism. It is possible that 'dangerous' materials, such as broken glass, metal, and, potentially, drug-taking paraphernalia, could be present on site
- All Volunteers should wear appropriate clothing for conservation tasks, suitable for the weather
- All volunteers must wear Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) such as gloves or any other protective clothing appropriate to the task
- Volunteers should in most circumstances work within the Reserve in pairs or small groups. If a volunteer chooses to work solo, they should always notify another of their whereabouts
- It is advised that volunteers carry a mobile phone while working on the Reserve
- Volunteering activities will be advertised via the public noticeboard, website and on social media
- Volunteers must familiarise themselves with the Gazen Salts Nature Reserve Health and Safety policy
- Volunteers should note that it is possible, but not guaranteed, that a trained first aider will be on site during the session
- The Chair and Trustees are not liable for valuables going missing. Bags and personal equipment are left in the Nissen Hut tool shed at the discretion and risk of the owner

This policy will be reviewed October 2025

***Approved at Trustees' Committee Meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024***