

# ACT NOW!

Apprenticeships and Careers



## Myth or Reality?

**"Apprenticeships are only available in traditional blue-collar trades."**

While apprenticeships have long been associated with trades like plumbing, carpentry, and electrical work, they are now available in a wide range of industries. You can find apprenticeship programs in fields like healthcare, information technology, finance, hospitality, and many more.

## Did you know?

This week is **National Carers Week!** This is an opportunity to celebrate the vital work carers do and to recognise the struggles of unpaid carers in particular. See more information here: [carersweek.org](https://carersweek.org).



## LIVE VACANCIES

Click the links below to apply

[Apprentice Business Administrator - Unscheduled Care](#)

Level 3

Closing Date: 11/06/23  
Start Date: Aug/Sept 23

[Apprentice Administrator - Immunisation](#)

Level 3

Closing Date: 12/06/23  
Start Date: Sept 23

[Apprentice Customer Service Practitioner - Procurement](#)

Level 2

Closing Date: 13/06/23  
Start Date: Aug/Sept 23

[Business Administration Apprenticeship - Haematology](#)

Level 3

Closing Date: 19/06/23  
Start Date: Aug 23

[Apprentice Clinical Coder](#)

Level 3

Closing Date: 02/07/23  
Start Date: Aug/Sept 23

## COMING SOON!

Apprentice Junior Energy Manager - Sustainability L3

Apprentice Corporate Responsibility & Sustainability Practitioner - L4

Apprentice Pharmacy Technician - L3 (multiple places available to start in Sept.)

Apprentice Business Administration - Corporate Governance - L3

Apprentice Early Years Educator - L3

[Scan me to apply for jobs!](#)



# MY LIFE, YOUR FUTURE?

## Who am I?

Hi, my name's Nick and I am the Senior Administrator for Professional Education and the Apprenticeships & Careers Team at Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Quite the mouthful I know but this is the just the tip of the iceberg when considering what I do at our Trust and the teams I work with or support.

## How did you get into this job?

After living and studying in Gloucestershire where I attended Sir Thomas Rich's School, I felt a change of scenery was needed and applied to attend the University of Derby where I studied Forensic Science with Criminology as I had a keen interest in this area. Upon completion of my Honours Degree, I struggled to find a suitable job in that area and moved back home where it was suggested by a family friend to apply for the role of Porter at the Trust. I hadn't initially considered the NHS as a career and while I did apply, I was not sure if the role would be for me.

15 years on I am glad I was proven wrong. Starting as a Porter was a great introduction to the NHS as while it was a demanding and energetic role, I got to meet a vast number of people in different roles and Departments and showed me the diversity of careers within the NHS. There came an opportunity when I applied for the role of Mortuary Assistant. While this may not be a role suitable for most people it was something that I was very interested in and played on my strengths, knowledge and skills from studying for my degree. I later achieved a promotion to Mortuary Supervisor and was able to support a number of changes and improvements to the services we provided within the Trust, while developing improved networks throughout the South West.

While I have had a varied career within the NHS (I didn't even mention training to be a phlebotomist!) it is my current role as Senior Administrator where I find myself today, after changing career direction a few years ago. I initially discovered Apprenticeships when I was asked by a colleague to do a talk and tour for some of our newly recruited Apprentice Healthcare Assistants to explain about the Mortuary Services. Little did I know I would end up working for their services instead a number of years later. While supporting colleagues from a variety of teams within the Education and Development Services, I have worked on a number of projects to support the training and education of staff within the Trust, as well as support the ever-growing workforce by recruiting apprentices into the numerous different career pathways within the NHS.

## What's the best part of your job?

I would consider the best part of my role to be working with the teams to support newly recruited apprentices into their roles with the NHS, as well as helping arrange for current staff to access development opportunities such as apprenticeships and further training opportunities to develop within their roles and take the next steps in their careers.

## Why I love Apprenticeships?

Having completed my degree then struggling to find a role that suited me, I wish I had been given the same opportunity to start off with an apprenticeship. I learned a lot from studies at University, but it was the practical experiences I missed which limited my applications for jobs within that area. The big part of an apprenticeship is the learning on the job. In my current position I was given the opportunity to complete the Level 3 Team Leader / Supervisor Apprenticeship where I achieved a distinction thanks to my hard work, and support from both my teams and training provider. I believe that Apprenticeships are a great way to get into a career, especially within the NHS.



**NICK WATSON**

SENIOR ADMINISTRATOR IN APPRENTICESHIPS AND CAREERS AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION/PA TO STEPH CUTHILL

## FOLLOW US TO KEEP IN THE LOOP



## Did you know a career with the NHS has loads of benefits?

- Discounts including Blue Light.
- 350+ different careers.
- Career progression opportunities.
- Excellent pension scheme.
- On site childcare
- Apprentice bus pass

and many more....



# Take the NHS Careers Quiz

Follow the link below to the NHS Health Careers site to complete a short quiz which aims to match you with your ideal career route. Information on various different opportunities including apprenticeships is also available: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>



## DIETITIAN'S WEEK

**BSc Nutrition and Dietetics Degree at University of Surrey following my A Levels, graduating in 1996**

**Claire's Career Journey**

**Worked for 2 years as a clinical dietitian in Oxford, carrying out research identifying levels of malnutrition.**

**I joined a medical nutrition company, co-ordinating research studies and trials for prescribed medical nutrition feeds and supplements**

**I undertook freelance work writing medical nutrition articles, specialist updates and supporting UK wide malnutrition projects.**

**I now lead on Education and Training for the dietetic department part time, whilst also undertaking a small amount of private clinical dietetic work.**

**I returned to the NHS, working as a GI dietitian, setting up and leading specialist services. I also co-ordinate training our dietetic students.**

**Dietitians Week**

- **Dietitian's Week** is a perfect opportunity to appraise and recognise the fantastic work done by our Dietetics' teams here in our Trust.
- This week we have been sharing on our social media channels a number of stories from our excellent dietetics professionals showcasing their career journeys and in particular how they got into this fascinating specialism.
- Dietetics is an area of healthcare concerning the study of how nutrition affects our health. Studies have shown that a better and more balanced diet leads to both stronger physical and mental wellbeing
- A common misconception around dietitians is that they are solely concerned with telling people what not to eat. On the contrary, dietetics revolves around helping people to both enjoy food and live healthier lives. It is also not just about helping those who are overweight to lose weight, as some dietetics patients will also be malnourished.
- Dietitians are the only regulated health profession related to food and nutrition and are not any less qualified than nutritional therapists.

## T LEVEL THURSDAY

- Last week our ACT Manager Lisa Ferris visited the Theatres department to help film a video to showcase Libby, one of our T Level students. This aimed to highlight what she does on her role in the department and the benefits that T Level students bring to their respective departments.



- **FACT:** T Levels include a substantial industry work placement of at least 45 days (or 315 hours) during the two-year program. This provides students with valuable hands-on experience in a real work environment, allowing them to apply their skills and gain industry-specific knowledge.





# Maternity Q&A Session

**MONDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2023**  
**MICROSOFT TEAMS**



**Are you interested in finding out how to start a career  
in Maternity?**

**Join us for an interactive session with our Maternity  
Team to experience a hands-on session with our  
training models!**

# Dietetics Taster Days

**WEDNESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2023**



Are you interested in finding out how to start a career in Dietetics?

Join us for an interactive session to find out what it is like to be a Dietitian, talk to and even shadow the experts.

Please email [ghn-tr.careers@nhs.net](mailto:ghn-tr.careers@nhs.net) to express interest. The Taster Day is for students in Year 11 and above and an application process will need to be followed.