



Tameside and Glossop  
Integrated Care  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Meet the apprentice

We are introducing to you **Donna Carradus**, a nursing associate apprentice at Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust.

1

How did you get your  
apprenticeship?

I had been working in the NHS for 4 years prior to starting my apprenticeship and 5 years in a care home. I was a HCA for 8 years and then became a Care Co-ordinator on a stroke rehabilitation ward. I heard about the TNA role and applied, I had to have a 'C' in GCSE English and Maths or equivalent. I had an interview with my trust and the university and gained my place on the course.

**2**

**What is the study model like and what types of things have you been doing in your off-the-job learning?**

**I attend university once a week at the University of Bolton and work 2.5 days at my Trust. At university we have done so much. Learnt about medication management, drug calculations, anatomy and physiology, public health and the impacts of the area that we live in. We are currently studying long term conditions.**

**3**

**What has been the hardest part?**

**The hardest part of the course I find is balancing time - having a social life, working and having the university work as well. I thought that essays and exams would be hard, and they are, but the university and lecturers are so supportive.**

**4**

**What has been the best part?**

**The best part for me is moving around the trust, meeting new people trying out new areas and how much I have learnt in what I think is such a short space of time!**

**5**

**Do you have any tips for future apprentices?**

**I hope to register as a nursing associate and one day top up my degree and do my nursing.**

**6**

**What do you hope to do next?**

**Go for it! You can always think of reasons why not to do it but honestly just go for it! You will never know until you try it.**