

BECOMING A REGISTERED NURSE - MEET THE APPRENTICE AND THEIR MENTOR



Meet Chloe Honeybun, a Level 6 Registered Nurse Degree apprentice working at Dorset Healthcare University Foundation Trust.

We spoke with Chloe about her journey to become a Registered Nurse Degree apprentice, keep reading to find out.

1

Why did you want to do the Nurse Degree Apprenticeship?

I wanted to do the Nurse Degree Apprenticeship because it was a role that I knew would set me up for a life-long career doing something extremely rewarding that benefits others and myself in so many ways. I wasn't sure which career path I wanted to take but when I saw the apprenticeship advertised I applied straight away because I couldn't turn down the opportunity! I also liked the idea of the apprenticeship route as opposed to the usual university route because it means I am learning on the job through the whole four years of training, so I'm getting a lot more experience before qualifying.

2

How have you benefitted from the Nurse Degree Apprenticeship?

I have nearly finished my first year of the apprenticeship and it has already benefitted me in so many ways. Having completed my A-Levels just last summer, this role has guided me into the world of work and has meant that I am lucky enough to already be saving money for my future. This time last year, I would never have viewed myself as being capable of what I'm doing now but doing this apprenticeship has helped me grow so much as a person, and I'm so grateful to have this role.

3

What have been your biggest challenges / successes?

My biggest challenge when first starting the apprenticeship was my confidence levels. I knew that this was a big barrier I had to face but from my very first day I have felt supported by my colleagues and peers so I felt part of the team very quickly.

My biggest success has been everything I have learnt so far in my first year! I am learning something new everyday whilst working on the ward and I love that every day is so different. Looking back now on how apprehensive I was when applying for the apprenticeship, I'm so glad I did as I really couldn't imagine myself in any other career!

Mentor interview with Golda Devadason

1

Why did your organisation decide to use the apprenticeship route for nurse?

Our organisation thought of using this apprenticeship scheme since there is not enough nurses in the system, especially Mental Health nurses, it's also very difficult to recruit nurses.

2

How has your ward/service/organisation benefitted from the apprentices?

Giving opportunities to staff to grow in their career life, cultivating our own staff, bridging the gap.

3

What have been your biggest challenges/successes?

Main challenge is finance, support to students from Mentors due to high acuity of ward, unable to facilitate everyone at the same time.

Successes are learning through practical, practice what they have learnt and no age limit to study.