

National Apprenticeship Week 2021

Nursing Apprenticeship Pathway



1. What is your name?

Kevin Triscott

2. Where do you work?

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust, Neurology – Acute Parkinson's Nurse Service.

3. Which apprenticeship are you doing and what does the study involve?

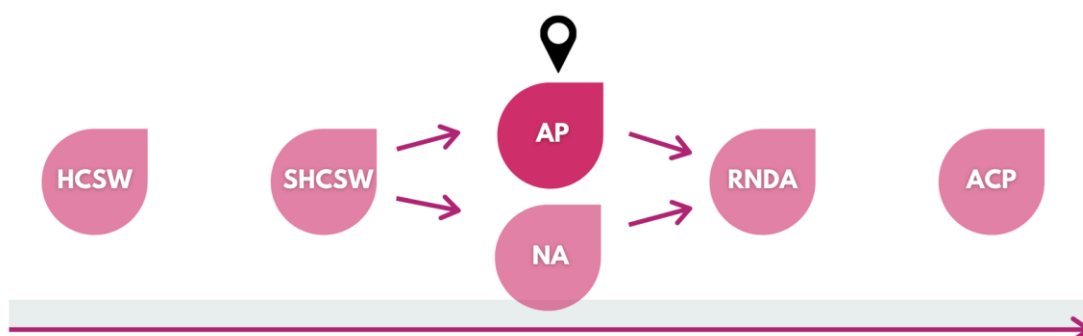
I am currently midway through the second year of the FdSc Assistant Practitioner, Foundation Degree - Higher Apprenticeship. The course is an embedded work-based programme enabling me to specialise within my area of practice. Combined theory and practice-based learning has allowed me to develop a range of clinical skills that will benefit me, my team and the patients in my care.

My course covers many aspects of health and social care, from anatomy and physiology and mental health to research and health promotion and medicines management.

My current apprenticeship has followed on from my completion of the Level 3 Senior Healthcare Support Worker apprenticeship, with my achievements being recognised as a runner up for the Higher Apprenticeship Award by the course provider, and prior to that the Healthcare Support Worker Level 2 apprenticeship, completed with my organisation.

4. What does your job role involve?

My role as an Assistant Practitioner with the Parkinson's Nurse Service involves many aspects of care for patients with the disease admitted into the acute hospital setting. I help to ensure their care needs are met and complexities of the condition are addressed through care planning, patient reviews and engaging a multidisciplinary team approach, ensuring person centred care is at the forefront of service delivery. Other duties involve actively assisting with advanced therapy clinics and device assisted therapy clinics and advising patients on our service's newly diagnosed pathway.



I conduct service reviews and audits and play an active role in the delivery of training and presentations to apprentice Healthcare Assistance, Nursing Associates and other healthcare professionals. This aspect of my role has played a part during the COVID response, where I have been assisting with the delivery of other clinical skills and upskilling training to health professionals of all levels.

5. Why did you want to do an apprenticeship?

From starting in the NHS six years ago, with no prior healthcare experience, I felt I wanted to progress further. Apprenticeships are giving me an opportunity to do just that.

Whilst working through each level, I have enhanced my knowledge and built on my academic skills that will help set me up for future study. I have been able to achieve this whilst in fulltime employment, learning while earning and with a tremendous amount of support and investment by my organisation. The apprenticeship route has been a great opportunity for career development and enhancement, benefitting myself and UHP NHS Trust.

For a number of years now, I have been active in promoting healthcare apprenticeships to students at GCSE level as a route into healthcare and ongoing career development and progression, using my own experiences and achievements as an example.

6. What do you want to do once you qualify?

I intend to continue within my role as an Assistant Practitioner with the possibility of further studies and development. Going forward, I am considering completing the Registered Nurse Degree apprenticeship to gain full registration and enrolment as a registered nurse and possibly use my knowledge from the Parkinson's Assistant Practitioner role by becoming a specialist nurse within this field.

