

# From Care Certificate to Apprenticeship



We spoke with Clare Fowler a Registered Nurse Degree Apprentice at West Middlesex University Hospital (WMUH) who has completed the Care Certificate and the Higher Development Award (HDA).

## What were you doing when you completed the Care Certificate?

I was working as an outpatient's phlebotomist at St Mary's Hospital when I was given the Care Certificate workbook to work through by myself and got assessed/ signed off by my nursing colleagues. It was enjoyable doing it alongside my job as I could put what I learnt into practice and develop my skills further. It was also rewarding to see the practical element of what I had learnt applied to my daily role within the Trust. The Care Certificate made developing my career possible, without this qualification I would have been unable to successfully get the job at WMUH. This qualification not only developed my skills but was recognisable as a qualification and demonstrated a desire to progress and learn.

## How have you benefitted from completing the Higher Development Award?

The HDA helped me with getting back into the swing of academic writing and studying again. It helped me with balancing work and assignments and time management skills. The assignments were hard to do alongside managing full time work. However, the support I received was excellent and it taught me so much with regards to time management and prioritising tasks in a timely manner. Also the topics of the assignments were relevant and relatable to my ongoing clinical practice. The HDA not only helped me progress my career but I made excellent contacts and was able to bring what I learnt back to my host ward.

## What are you doing now?

After completing the the Care Certificate and the Higher Development Award I went onto to study for registration as a nurse. I am currently in my second year as a registered nurse degree apprentice.

**The HDA enables people to gain the confidence, academic credits and functional skills they need to progress in their careers.**

CARE CERTIFICATE

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

HIGHER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

REGISTERED NURSE DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP