

FEATURED APPRENTICE

SARAH TANTON

SENIOR HEALTHCARE SUPPORT WORKER



Northern Devon Healthcare
NHS Trust

Meet Sarah Tanton, a Level 3 Senior Healthcare Support Worker apprentice working at North Devon District Hospital within the Northern Urgent Care Nursing Team.

We spoke with Sarah about her journey to become a Senior Healthcare Support Worker apprentice, keep reading to find out.

WHAT APPRENTICESHIP ARE YOU STUDYING AND WHAT DOES THE STUDY INVOLVE?

I am currently studying the Level 3 Senior Health Support Worker (SHCSW) apprenticeship standard. The apprenticeship involves completing 16 mandatory units and 4 optional units and also being observed within my workplace by an assessor. As part of my apprenticeship I also had to complete and pass maths Functional Skills Level 2 and I'm now waiting to start my English Functional Skills Level 2. I attend college one day a week for a teaching session.

WHY DID YOU WANT TO DO AN APPRENTICESHIP?

I'm undertaking the apprenticeship to gain more knowledge, understanding, skills and confidence within my job.

WHAT DOES YOUR JOB ROLE INVOLVE?

Within my work role, I am required to undertake unplanned visits out of hours within the community. An evening shift is 4pm till 1am and a night shift is 10pm till 8am. I work alone from 4pm till 10pm, after 10pm I team up with a Registered Nurse. I undertake different tasks which I have completed training and keep up to date with. I am competent to change female catheters, dress wounds, support end of life patients and families, blood monitoring for diabetic individuals. I also update care plans electronically and support individuals with personal care and vital observations.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO ONCE YOU QUALIFY?

Once qualified, I would like to continue working within the team. And hopefully this will give me the opportunity to undertake the Trainee Nursing Associate Apprenticeship.