

# FEATURED APPRENTICE

## ELLIE FITZGERALD

### SENIOR HEALTHCARE SUPPORT WORKER APPRENTICESHIP



**University Hospitals  
Bristol and Weston**  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Meet Ellie Fitzgerald, a Level 3 Senior Healthcare Support Worker apprentice working at University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust.**

We spoke with Ellie 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 have only ever done one apprenticeship, which is the one that I am currently doing. It is the level 3 Senior Healthcare Support Worker apprenticeship. The apprenticeship involves completing 15 mandatory units, which is based around things you will do in your work setting and 5 optional units completely based on children and young people. Also I have to complete 20% off the job training, so doing study in my own time, this might be searching or talking to people within work to find out more about a certain illness which I didn't know already.

### WHAT DOES YOUR JOB ROLE INVOLVE?

My job role consists of many different things such as undertaking tasks. Some of the things I do are; general care for patients, observations (blood pressure, temperature, saturations, respiration, heart rate, capillary refill), scribing for resus, ECG's, testing urine samples, transferring patients to wards, completing stock checks and refilling stock, running blood gases, checking BM & ketone levels, venepuncture and much more! As a nursing assistant we can do so much, it's not just about doing observations.

### WHY DID YOU WANT TO DO AN APPRENTICESHIP?

I wanted to do an apprenticeship because I like to be hands-on, meaning I like to study while physically doing the job. I personally find it easier learning this way and understand more while doing it.

### WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO ONCE YOU QUALIFY?

Once I qualify, I have decided that I want to work in the ambulance service as an emergency care assistant and then once I have more knowledge in that field, I would like to become a student paramedic and train to become a paramedic. However, my mind is not fully set as the trust have recently brought out the nursing associate apprenticeship which I have looked into as well.