



Apprenticeships at Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust



There are currently over 450 employees studying in 36 different apprenticeship programmes at Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust, which is one of the largest NHS Trusts in the country and has its main hospital sites in Southend, Basildon and Broomfield.

Kate Merritt, Workbased Learning Manager at the Trust, said:

"This amazing number of apprentices is only possible thanks to the 40 training providers we are working closely with who help us offer apprenticeships across both clinical and non-clinical areas of the hospitals. This is an excellent opportunity for all Trust staff who want to advance their careers whilst working and ultimately all goes to help improve the patient experience."

Over the last two years, 300 apprentices have completed their courses at the Trust and apprenticeship opportunities range from entry level 2 qualifications right through to level 7 masters degree qualifications. The Trust also supports those staff without GCSE Maths and English





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Ruth Lumba is a Nurse apprentice at Southend Hospital

Ruth Lumba is one of the Registered Nurse apprentices at Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust

Ruth, 42 from Westcliff, had been a Healthcare Assistant at Southend University Hospital before starting the Nursing Apprenticeship, delivered by University of East London, two years ago.

She said: "At the end of four years I'll have a BSc (Hons) Nursing degree and studying for it by way of an apprenticeship is the best of all worlds for me. It is very professional; the university are very supportive with help on your studies and so is the hospital with the hands-on training.

"I'm enjoying it so much that I'm now encouraging my son to go down the apprenticeship route, as it delivers on gaining experience and a qualification, all whilst being paid. I have always wanted to do my nursing degree, but would not have been able to afford to do it as soon without this fantastic scheme."





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Kyle Cameron-Symes is based at Basildon Hospital in the Medical Equipment Management Service (MEMS) team

Meet Kyle Cameron-Symes, he was a Porter before he became an apprentice in the Medical Equipment Management Service (MEMS) team at Basildon Hospital."

The MEMS team ensure medical equipment is kept in top condition. He chose to do an apprenticeship as he felt it was a good opportunity to learn new skills and help develop his career within the hospital.

He had sound advice for anyone thinking about doing an apprenticeship. He said: "I think that you need to be dedicated in what you want to do, but don't let something like age put you off as I thought apprenticeships were only for school leavers, but I was wrong."



- Estates & Facilities at Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust
- <u>Digital Apprenticeships at Mid and</u> <u>South Essex NHS Foundation Trust</u>

