

**JESSICA SMITH****IRWELL MEDICAL GROUP**

**Jessica Smith is undertaking a Level 5 Nursing Associate (NMC 2018) apprenticeship standard at Irwell Medical Practice.**

**We spoke to Jessica recently about her experiences of undertaking an apprenticeship, keep reading to find out more.**

### **What apprenticeship are you studying and what does the study involve?**

I am currently undertaking the Trainee Nursing Associate (TNA) Apprenticeship to become a Nursing Associate. This involves studying at university 1 day a week, and spending the rest of the time at a base placement.

### **What is your current job role and how did you get into your current role?**

I am currently a Trainee Nursing Associate. I started as a Healthcare Assistant and was then given the opportunity through my employer to commence the TNA course.

### **What have been the biggest challenges?**

The biggest challenge has been balancing work and studying, alongside family time.

### **What has been your proudest achievement on your apprenticeship to date?**

Passing all exams and assignments so far with high grades and gaining lots of knowledge and experience at work.

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"Ensure you give yourself plenty of time with assignments and do little and often"

### What do you want to do once you complete your apprenticeship?

I would like to top up to be a Registered Nurse but gain some experience as a Nursing Associate first.

### What would you say to someone considering an apprenticeship?

Ensure you give yourself plenty of time with assignments and do little and often.

### Any final comments?

Irwell Medical Practice has been a brilliant employer and along with UCLAN (University of Central Lancashire ) has been a great support network.

[Learn more about the L5 Nursing Associate \(NMC 2018\) apprenticeship](#)

Visit our [Primary Care page](#) for resources and guidance. Our [Funding page](#) also provides guidance on funding rules and transfer levy.