

# Working with Us

## Job Title

Assistant Practitioner

## Name

Stephanie Heyes

## Entry Route

I initially started working as a Nursing Auxiliary and was then seconded to take up a post as a Trainee Assistant Practitioner. I did this whilst attending university part time to obtain my professional qualifications for this role.

## Role

My role is patient focused and provides direct care to those admitted on my ward, on a shift basis involving days and nights. The duties involved ECG's, helping to admit and discharge patients. I take bloods, canulate patients and check medication with the staff nurses. I work with the Physiotherapists/Occupational Therapist, Social Work, nurse's, nursing auxiliaries and doctors on the ward.

I undertake specialist training as required as part of my role, for instance I have recently completed the Dementia Champion training.

## Typical Day

On a typical day my duties include doing observations, helping patients with personal care such as washing and dressing; I also accompany doctors on the ward round. I also complete referrals, change dressings and assist with discharges and admissions, whilst ensuring the patient notes are updated.

This role was a perfect choice for me as it allowed me to progress from a nursing auxiliary, take on more responsibility, whilst still retaining the patient contact.

## Why I do my job

This is my local hospital and since being at the trust I have been encouraged to develop in my chosen career. As a nursing auxiliary I felt I had the ability to take on more responsibility but not necessarily the training, so the secondment as a Trainee Assistant Practitioner provided me with the opportunity to take on a more responsible role. I sincerely enjoy having patient contact, some of my patients are on the ward for some time due to the nature of their conditions, so I feel that I provide continuity of care and build up a relationship with my patients. I love my job and feel I am in a position that should I wish to, I can take up further studies to become a Staff Nurse. I see I make a real positive impact on patient experience and feel my patients recognise that.