



## About us

Careers at Joined Up Care Derbyshire brings together local partner organisations to support the current and future health and social care workforce. We seek to find the best candidates for roles within the health and social care sector of Derby and Derbyshire – and support them on their career journey. We are part of Joined Up Care Derbyshire, the Integrated Care System (ICS), helping individuals and teams work in new ways to meet the ever-changing needs of patients and the public.



Newsletter issue 12 – January 2025



## Supporting workplaces to be age-friendly

Employers across Joined Up Care Derbyshire (JUCD) have signed the Age-friendly Employer Pledge, a nationwide programme run by the [Centre for Ageing Better](#) to make workplaces age-friendly. By signing the pledge, we are showing our commitment to older workers and making our workplace age-friendly. This means we are taking action to improve our recruitment, retention and development of workers aged 50 and over. Being a part of the pledge means we draw on a wider pool of applicants for each job. It means older workers can continue to thrive and contribute in JUCD. And it means we can benefit from the innovation and productivity boost that multi-generational workforces bring.



The Derbyshire  
VCSE sector  
Alliance



Derby City Council



# Healthcare support workers honoured with awards

Our annual Healthcare Support Worker Awards, held in November 2024, celebrated the achievements of colleagues and marked National Support Worker Day on 23 November.

We received many fantastic nominations from various organisations across the Derbyshire health and social care system.

These awards are designed to celebrate the fantastic work carried out by healthcare, care and all support workers. Every single person who was nominated is a winner in our eyes, but one winner had to be selected in each category.

## And the winners were:



### Service User/Patient Choice Award

**Aidan Murtagh, prosthetic technician at Royal Derby Hospital**

Aidan works tirelessly in the workshop ensuring that prosthetic manufacture is done in a timely fashion and to high quality to enhance the service users' functional outcomes.

He has also spent some time supporting AJ Mead, who has represented Team GB in para ice hockey, to help enhance his sporting ability since his amputations. Aidan spent time working on the sledge that AJ used and re-modelled it to fit bespoke. After winning a gold medal at an international championships, AJ said: "I'd say a large slice of that gold medal belongs to Aidan."

Pictured: Aidan with Karen Clark and AJ Mead



### New to Care Award

**Namneet Sanghera, clinical apprentice at Florence Nightingale Community Hospital**

"Namneet has been nothing short of exceptional whilst finding her feet in the role. She has shown a flair for care, and she demonstrates the Trust's values on a daily basis. Her compassion for patients and their families is what I would want to experience if I was the patient or the affected family."

Pictured: Namneet with Angela Roome



### Student of the Year Award

**Emily Illsley, trainee nurse associate, Swadlincote Health Centre**

"Emily is an absolute inspiration for us all. She is a fantastic team player and is much loved by her colleagues and patients alike. I am so proud of Emily's achievements and her development since joining the team. She is kind, caring and compassionate. She epitomises the Derbyshire Community Health Services (DCHS) way and is such an asset to our team. I'd like to thank Emily for her dedication to the patients on our caseload and cannot wait to see her qualify as a nursing associate."



## Lifetime Achievement Award

**Chris Swan, home haemodialysis trainer, Royal Derby Hospital**

Chris started his career with the renal team in 1995. He has mentored many new staff members on the dialysis unit throughout his career and is always passionate about developing the service and helping new staff achieve their full potential. Part of his role includes visiting patients at home to assist them to perform home haemodialysis. He is widely recognised as a home therapies patient advocate and role model to his colleagues and the wider renal community nationally. His current area of interest is using virtual reality to deliver sustainable training.

In 2007, Chris was a founder member of the team which fund-raised, designed and delivered a caravan equipped to dialysis patients to support them to holiday, initially in North Wales, and Devon. Chris has volunteered to work at the dialysis caravan every year since opening. He is a much-valued colleague who went above and beyond to support a colleague who had experienced a traumatic loss by arranging the Brandon Sutton Memorial Run, which is now in its second year. As a keen runner himself, he is running the 2025 London Marathon for Kidney Research UK.

Pictured: Chris with Carol Rhodes



## Unsung Hero Award

**Jessica Lees, maternity support worker, Long Eaton**

“We walk in almost feeling lost because her efficiency leaves us with time to breathe and take stock of the day ahead, which was something we didn’t always have before. Jess is so knowledgeable, always seeking ways to improve our systems to make life that little bit easier. Always being task focused and so keen for self-development and improvement. She is also fantastic and caring with all our families. She is a very well loved and cherished team member.”

Pictured: Jessica and Karen Willdig



## Going the Extra Mile Award

**Olivia Small, trainee nurse associate, Queen’s Hospital, Burton**

“Not only the feedback I receive, but the care I witness Olivia giving her patients daily is truly wonderful. We are so lucky to have her in our team on ward five. I am provided with feedback most days from either colleagues or patients and their relatives on how Olivia has made their stay in hospital enjoyable, how she has brought a smile to a patient’s face in their most vulnerable times. She goes above and beyond most days. Overall, Olivia is an amazing team player, she is able to reach out to help her colleagues in times of need, she does this by relieving the workload and supporting new members of staff. She consistently ensures that her patients’ needs are met, a high standard of care is provided, and our patient journeys are as positive as possible.”

Pictured: Olivia and Vikki Burton

## Appeal for young people who have experience of the care system

**YOUNG PEOPLE WITH CARE EXPERIENCE WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We provide support and opportunities to access a variety of roles in health and social care

Our programme needs a brand name - share your creative name and get the chance to win a...

**£50 SHOPPING VOUCHER**

Scan the QR code to enter

**Closing date is Friday, 31 January 2025**

Logos: Careers, NHS, Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, CPD, APPROVED PROVIDER

## Book now for new application and interview skills sessions

Do you want to work in health and social care or know someone else who does? Are you applying for a different role for the first time in a long time? Maybe you could use a little support with your application form or CV?

Join one of our online sessions in 2025 to get top tips on completing application forms, CVs and being interviewed. Please book using the relevant link below. Sessions last up to one-and-a-half hours and are informal, free and open to all.

**2 Feb 2025 at 1pm**

<https://forms.office.com/e/tY9vjEW2WG>

**4 April 2025 at 9.30am**

<https://forms.office.com/e/LAemLKLt1>

**11 June 2025 at 3.30pm**

<https://forms.office.com/e/ycxnbmJbb>

**12 August 2025 at 9.30am**

<https://forms.office.com/e/WRjeX6DtqZ>

**8 October 2025 at 1pm**

<https://forms.office.com/e/LqAeWVpnTe>

**8 December 2025 at 9.30am**

<https://forms.office.com/e/2LEDvPckPh>

## New dates in 2025 for health and social care career events

In partnership with Derby College and Chesterfield College, the Careers Team will be hosting two career events for current health and social care students in March 2025.

We aim to have lots of employers and different professions represented at the events to talk to the students about their organisation's roles and opportunities. There will be a market

place where organisations can book their stand, as well as an opportunity to provide talks throughout the day about their profession.

The events will be held on Wednesday 5 March at Derby College and Thursday 6 March at Chesterfield College. For employers who are interested in booking a stand, please complete the [Booking Form](#) or scan the QR code.

Future Talent, Future Heroes!  
Booking Form 2025



# Bookings open for Sector Based Work Academy



Careers

Joined Up Care Derbyshire

## Sector-based Work Academy Programme

Careers at Joined Up Care Derbyshire are working with Derbyshire Adult Community Education Services and the Department for Work and Pensions

### February 25

This course is for people who are unemployed, actively seeking work and are interested in working in the adult health and social care sector. You will learn the skills and knowledge to prepare for work in adult social care. If you are unemployed and actively seeking work, this course is FREE.

You will gain a nationally accredited qualification: NCFE Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care

Start date 03.03.25  
End date: 12.03.25  
Enrolment closes: 26.02.25

Contact:  
Hazel Jones, Senior Project Officer  
Joined Up Careers Derbyshire,  
email  
[hazel.jones22@nhs.net](mailto:hazel.jones22@nhs.net)



#### Work outside of sessions:

You will produce a portfolio of evidence and your tutor will give you individual support and feedback on all the work you complete.



#### Additional costs/materials:

As this course is completely online, you can work from home. You will need a device to access the course and participate in the online sessions. You will take part in a range of activities and discussions and produce a written portfolio to submit by email to your course tutor.



#### Progression from this course

You will be offered support by the JUC Health and Social Care advisor and the Derbyshire Careers Service in preparing to apply for jobs in adult social care at the end of this course.



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## Step Into Work steps forward into 2025

The Step into Work programme will be delivered on a quarterly basis in 2025 in both Derby and Chesterfield. The programme is strongly established in both locations and the regular frequency comes with the aim of maintaining the cohort size, as well as the success of the programme, in promoting inclusion and broad representation from members of the diverse communities.

The first Derby programme commences on 4 February in a continued partnership with Derby College and will be delivered in a hybrid format following a successful trial during the past year. The first Chesterfield programme, in partnership with Chesterfield College, will commence on 17 February. It will be delivered online with the remaining programmes in the year also in a hybrid format, combining guided tutor sessions in college, completion of coursework online and access to tutor support outside of college attendance.

Both programmes will continue to be delivered across a six-week term and will be accredited to Level 2; there will be the option for candidates to continue for an additional week for the submission of any outstanding coursework. This was offered in 2024 and greatly assisted both the retention of learners and the proportion who successfully achieved the Level 2 qualification.

Both programmes will provide support and access to a range of employment and traineeship opportunities in healthcare roles with provider organisations across the system, including our NHS trusts, primary care and local authorities.

The Chesterfield programme will also offer a Level 1 qualification in Customer Service, enabling candidates with suitable employed experience in a customer service or clerical environment to consider certain reception or office support roles.

An addition to the programme for 2025 is a workshop that has been co-designed and will be jointly delivered by Step Into Work and the National Careers Service. This will focus on two key aspects to assist candidates in their preparation for applying to available vacancies. These are identifying transferable skills from previous employment or lived experience to meet the requirements for employment within healthcare, and advice on how to succeed at interview. Much of the content will be contextualised to the requirements of employers.

The workshop will enhance the employability support already integrated into the programme that provides guidance to learners on improving application techniques and interview skills.



## Paid work experience placement available

JUCD has an exciting career opportunity to share for school and college leavers from low-income families across the Midlands. The NHS Finance Insights Placement Scheme offers paid work experience in NHS organisations throughout England to individuals aged 18 and above, who do not plan to attend university and come from lower socio-economic backgrounds. We are also keen to advertise and welcome care leavers to this scheme.

The scheme aims to attract diverse talent from local communities served by the NHS into the finance sector. It provides a 12-month experience placement in an entry-level (band two) finance role, allowing candidates to develop new skills and gain on-the-job work experience. Locally, placements will be available at NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB, Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust.



**Join the NHS!**

12 month paid placements in finance starting September 2025.  
No experience needed!

**Find out more information**

Scan the QR code to learn more



Or email [finance.academy@nhs.net](mailto:finance.academy@nhs.net)

**FUTURE TALENT  
FUTURE HEROES**

# Virtual Work Experience

**in the Health & Social Care sector**



**DIVE INTO THE WORLD OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE**

**EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE CAREER OPTIONS**

**DEVELOP KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**

**FLEXIBLE PROGRAMME**

**CERTIFICATE UPON COMPLETION**



**scan to register**

**Launching with a LIVE WEBINAR on  
Tuesday 4th February at 5pm!**

**Hear from real life professionals in:**

**Radiography - Pharmacy - Speech Therapy - Management**

**The webinar will also be recorded and available on-demand as part of the programme.**





# Core20PLUS5 ambassador appointment

## I AM A CORE20 PLUS AMBASSADOR COHORT 3

I advocate for equitable, inclusive access, excellent experience and optimal outcomes.



Following an application submitted in September 2024 to the Core20PLUS5 programme, Brian Grant, Step Into Work Programme Officer for the central Careers and Anchor Development team, has been appointed as an ambassador to act on behalf of Derby and Derbyshire NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB). The programme, now in its third year, is a national initiative across all integrated care system (ICS) regions, and as a part of NHS England's Health Inequalities Improvement Programme, is focused on tackling and improving health inequalities within the NHS and among the local population.

The 'Core20' within the programme title refers to the 20 per cent of the population who experience the highest level of greatest social and economic deprivation. The 'PLUS' element refers to groups and communities who are most likely to experience social exclusion, poor access to health services and who characteristically are less well represented within statistics or health data. This includes ethnic minority communities, people living with a learning disability or on the autism spectrum, rural communities and groups with 'protected characteristics' as defined by the 2010 Equality Act. The '5' within the programme title references five primary areas of health inequality that require accelerated improvement, these being maternity services, respiratory disease with a focus on COPD, hypertension, early cancer diagnosis and severe mental illness.

Each of these areas has a stated aim in addressing inequality:

- To ensure the continuity of maternity care for women within black, Asian and ethnic minority communities

- That 75% of all cancer cases are diagnosed at either stage one or two by 2028
- That 60% of all individuals living with severe mental illness receive an annual health check.

Project work is on a voluntary and self-directed basis. Individual ambassadors can progress work in an area of individual interest or priority need within their local communities. A case study based on progress or an achievement during the year is to be prepared by each ambassador to reflect their individual project.

Brian Grant said: *"It is a real privilege to be appointed to act on behalf of Derby and Derbyshire ICB and to be given this opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to an area of health inequality. There is a strong link to my role within the Careers team and to work to achieve the equality of access to employment and inclusivity across our workforce.*

*"My personal interest for a project lies in improving engagement with the broad spectrum of mental health services by members of communities for whom this is still strongly characterised by stigma and poor access and to overcome the isolation that is caused as a result.*

*"The programme and the role of an ambassador is a hugely important opportunity to build upon the engagement work I have been involved with since 2021 in contact with members of BME communities and community associations, through partnership with Derbyshire BME Forum, and have more recently been working to replicate in Derby City through work with Community Action.*

*Continued on the following page*

## CORE20PLUS5 AMBASSADOR APPOINTMENT

*“An objective of equal importance and personal interest would be to improve the delivery of these services in a more culturally appropriate manner and to improve the patient experience of support for trauma. There is a lot to do in a short space of time to map and understand the work already undertaken and to create a more focused framework for my own project.*”

*“I am incredibly keen to identify, learn from and work with colleagues across the ICS who are currently working in this area and may have evidence or experience from their employment, or any ideas and proposals to offer on how to improve community engagement or make the specific aims of my project interest more effective.*”

*“I look forward to forging closer working relationships with colleagues from organisations across the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector who currently deliver some of these critical services and play such an important role to successfully connect this project to the community.”*

Contact [brian.grant@nhs.net](mailto:brian.grant@nhs.net) or  
07721 324059 / 07534 679648.

Further information and detail on all aspects of the Core20PLUS5 programme can be found on the Future NHS site - [Core20PLUS5 - Healthcare Inequalities Improvement Programme - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#) – or from NHS England - [NHS England » Core20PLUS5 \(adults\) – an approach to reducing healthcare inequalities](#)



## Find out about career opportunities in Derby

Are you looking for a career in care? Have you checked out Derby City Council's latest web content? Explore the opportunities of working in care on their [Care for Derby website](#). The site sets out the benefits of working in care and provides information on adult social care and children's social care.

## Contact Careers at Joined Up Care Derbyshire

**Web:** <https://joinedupcareers.co.uk/contact>

**Email:** [ddicb.joinedupcareers@nhs.net](mailto:ddicb.joinedupcareers@nhs.net)

**Write to us at:**

The Council House, Corporation Street, Derby, DE1 2FS