

Careers

Joined Up Care Derbyshire

Health and Social Care Careers



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INTRODUCTION

Health and Social Care supports Derbyshire's 780,000 people living and working across the county in various ways to improve and enhance the lives of people and their families.

Health and social care supports people of all ages, and with a growing older population there is an increased need for the delivery of health and social care to support the ageing population of Derbyshire.

Derbyshire's Health and Social care providers offer support and make a difference to people regardless of their background. Being employed within the Health and Social Care sector can be very rewarding and can offer variety, training opportunities, flexibility, progression, and promotion.

With over 350 roles, employment within Health and Social Care offers a huge range of exciting and challenging opportunities for people who are passionate about making a difference.

ROLES WITHIN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INCLUDE:

- Care Workers & Senior Care Practitioners
- Social Workers
- Allied Health Professions (AHPs)
- Medical Roles
- Corporate Support
- Managerial and Leadership Roles
- Estates and Facilities Professions

There are varying entry requirements dependent on the role, and there is the potential to progress and develop your career within and across a variety of professions.

ACTIVITIES WORKER

Activities workers are usually based in care homes or day centres and can be based in someone's home or the community. Activities workers organise social activities for people who need care and support, to help them to take part. There is also an Activities Co-ordinator role in an acute Trust.

THE ROLE MIGHT INCLUDE:

- Talking to people about the types of activities they'd like to do and completing research around the types such as sensory, physical, mental etc.
- Organising activities that are tailored to the needs and abilities of individuals as well as group activities that will bring individuals together
- Book external suppliers - this could be for equipment or resources
- Time management and ability to schedule and plan ahead

There are also specific skills needed to work in this role. These include:

- The ability to motivate people with an outgoing personality
- Good organisational skills
- Good communication skills with an ability to influence others
- Digital and telephone skills to research and book activities online

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

You don't always need qualifications for this role. What's most important is that you have the right values and behaviours to work in social care.

You may also need GCSE - A-C (9-4) in English and Mathematics and Level 2 or 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care, which can be completed whilst performing the role.

USEFUL LINKS:

www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Careers-in-care/Job-roles/Roles/Activities-worker.aspx

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS (AHPs)

On the following pages is a list of all the professions that are collectively known as the Allied Health Professions (AHPs). These are individual and varied professions, but they all have one thing in common: they play a vital part in treating, rehabilitating and improving the lives of patients. The list includes a brief description of each allied health profession and the website for the professional body where you will find further information.

All allied health professions require a profession specific degree-level qualification (with the exception of Art, Music and Drama therapy which are MSc level qualifications). Some professions also have degree apprenticeships or Pre-registration Master level courses available. For many of these professions, there are also opportunities to work as a non-registered Support Worker, which does not require a degree-level qualification. This is an important role vital to the running of services and is a good way to gain experience working with these AHPs before deciding to complete your training to becoming a registered allied health professional.

Information on all AHP roles can also be found here:

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/>

Source: Derbyshire AHP Faculty 2023

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS (AHPs)

ART THERAPY

Art therapy is a form of psychotherapy that uses art as its main mode of expression and communication. Art therapists use art as a medium to address emotional issues which may be confusing and distressing. The British Association of Art Therapists: Baat.org

DIAGNOSTIC RADIOGRAPHER

Diagnostic radiographers use cutting edge technology (such as X rays and scans) to look inside patients' bodies and diagnose/treat illnesses and disease
The Society of Radiographers: www.sor.org/about/about-radiography/promotional-resources

DIETITIAN

Dietitians translate the science of nutrition into everyday information about food and advise people on their food and nutrition choices. They are also involved with making decisions re patients who are fed artificially either via a tube or into the vein.

The Association of UK Dietitians: www.bda.uk.com/about-dietetics

DRAMATHERAPY

Dramatherapy is a form of Psychotherapy. Drama therapists are both clinicians and artists that draw on their knowledge of theatre and therapy to use as a medium for psychological therapy that may include drama, story-making, music, movement, and art; to work with any issue that has presented itself.

MUSIC THERAPY

Music therapists use the power of music to help people deal with feelings they cannot put into words. British Association for Music Therapy: www.bamt.org

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS (AHPs)

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

Occupational Therapists help people overcome challenges completing everyday tasks or activities (occupations) so they can live their best life at home, at work and everywhere else. Royal College of Occupational Therapists: rcot.co.uk

OPERATING DEPARTMENT PRACTITIONER (ODP)

ODPs deliver patient care in three areas: anaesthetics, surgical scrub, and recovery. They work in the surgery team and manage the preparation of the operating theatres. They are also the link between the surgical team and other parts of the operating theatre and hospital.

College of Operating Department Practitioners: Odpcareers.codp.uk

ORTHOPTIST

Orthoptists diagnose and treat eye movement disorders, as well as visual impairments related to the way the eyes interact with the brain. British and Irish Orthoptic Society: www.orthoptics.org.uk

PARAMEDIC

Paramedics have a unique role that crosses healthcare, public health, social care and public safety. They work independently and as part of a team to provide emergency care but also work in GP practices, hospital emergency departments and police custody suites. College of Paramedics:

Collegeofparamedics.co.uk

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Physiotherapists help restore movement and function when someone is affected by injury, illness or disability. The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy: csp.org.uk

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS (AHPs)

PROSTHETIST AND ORTHOTIST

Prosthetists create and fit artificial replacements for patients who are missing a limb, while orthotists correct problems or deformities in nerves, muscles and bones with a range of aids. British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists: www.bapo.com

PODIATRIST

Podiatrists specialise in treating the foot, ankle, and leg, aiming to improve the mobility, independence, and quality of life for their patients. Royal College of Podiatry: Rcpod.org.uk

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST

Speech and language therapists provide treatment, support and care for children and adults who have difficulties with communication, eating, drinking, and swallowing. Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists: www.rcslt.org

THERAPEUTIC RADIOGRAPHER/RADIOTHERAPIST

Treatment radiographers treat patients with cancer. Using complex and advanced technology, they collaborate with other healthcare professionals to create individual treatment plans that blend technical ability with emotional support for your patients. The Society of Radiographers: www.sor.org/about/about-radiography/promotional-resources

APPRENTICESHIPS

An apprenticeship is a paid job where you will learn and gain valuable skills and experience to perform in the role.

Alongside the on-the-job training, as an apprentice you will spend at least 6 of your working hours completing classroom / theory-based learning with a college, university or training provider which on completion will gain a nationally recognised qualification.

An apprenticeship with us in Health and Social Care in Derbyshire includes:

- Paid employment with holiday entitlement
- Hands on experience supported by experienced colleges in the profession
- A minimum of 6 hours a week off the job for learning that supports the theory element and knowledge in your role area . Formal assessment leading to a nationally recognised qualification
- Support to gain/develop your functional maths and English skills if required
- Opportunity to apply for permanent positions within the Derbyshire health and social care sector

Who is an Apprenticeship for?

Apprenticeships are available to anyone over the age of 16, for higher level apprenticeships the minimum age is 18 due to the entry requirements needed to study, apprenticeships are suitable for people:

- Early in their career / first job
- Looking to upskill, develop and enhance in their current job
- Seeking a career change
- Not in full time education

APPRENTICESHIPS

In health and social care, there are apprenticeships in:

- Adult Care Work
- Nursing
- Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy
- Pharmacy
- Administration and Management
- Domestic, Cleaning and Catering
- Plumbing, Carpentry and Engineering
- Customer service and project management
- IT and Data

Many other apprenticeships are available at:

<https://haso.skillsforhealth.org.uk/standards/>

How to apply

There are lots of apprenticeship opportunities within the NHS and Social Care in Derbyshire. Each organisation will advertise their opportunities along with their job vacancies – you can find links to these on this website:

<https://joinedupcareers.co.uk/vacancies>

Apprenticeships are also advertised on the national Government website:

www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

Useful Link: www.instituteforapprenticeships.org

CARE HOME MANAGEMENT

Care Home Managers lead a team of care workers and/or manage a care service. It's their job to ensure the organisation, and everyone working in it, provides quality care and support.

THERE ARE LOTS OF DIFFERENT MANAGEMENT LEVELS IN SOCIAL CARE INCLUDING:

- First line managers such as service managers or residential unit managers
- Middle managers such as assistant director or department head
- Senior managers such as service director or chief executive

Managers can work in any social care setting including care homes, supported living flats, in the community, hospices or local authorities.

THERE ARE SOME SPECIFIC SKILLS NEEDED TO WORK IN THIS ROLE.

THESE INCLUDE:

- Strong leadership skills and the ability to motivate others
- The ability to think strategically to develop your organisation
- Good project management and organisational skills

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

A background and experience in working in a social care or health role is vital in order to progress to a managerial role.

The core qualification for social care managers is the Level 5 Diploma in Leadership in Health and Social Care, which can be completed on the job.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Careers-in-care/Job-roles/Roles/Manager.aspx

CARE WORK

Care workers can work in a care home, in people's own homes or in the community. The role can range from domiciliary carer to personal assistant, shared lives carer, or helping someone in supported living. Other roles include ambulance care assistant, or health care assistant in a hospital. Care workers support people with all aspects of their day to day living, including social and physical activities, personal care, mobility, and mealtimes.

You could work with lots of different people including adults with learning disabilities, physical disabilities, substance misuse issues, mental health conditions and older people.

THERE ARE SPECIFIC SKILLS NEEDED TO WORK IN THIS ROLE. THESE INCLUDE:

- The ability to work on your own initiative and prioritise your workload
- Good listening and communication skills
- Have an understanding and empathy for the needs of vulnerable people
- The ability to understand and follow policies and procedures
- The ability to complete records clearly in written or IT format
- Show dignity, respect and compassion
- Be open to learning and reflection – (thinking about what you do and why you do things in a certain way)
- The ability to work collaboratively with other members of the multi-disciplinary team
- Be committed to quality care and support with a willingness to undertake training

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

You don't necessarily need any qualifications to become a care worker. What's important is that you have the right values and behaviours to work in social care.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.skillsforcare.org.uk/careers-in-care/job-roles/roles/care-worker.aspx

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

A clinical psychologist works with people of all ages on a wide range of psychological difficulties in mental and physical health. They diagnose, assess, and provide treatment for people with conditions such as anxiety, depression, personality disorders, eating disorders and addiction. Psychology is the study of how people think and behave. It is a combination of science and practice. During an interview you would assess a patient by using direct observation and techniques and apply your skills and scientific knowledge.

Clinical psychologists work largely in Health and Social Care settings, including:

- Hospitals
- Local Clinics & Health Centres
- Community Mental Health Teams
- Social Services, Schools & Prisons

They will often work alongside other professionals, including doctors, nurses, social workers, occupational therapists and physiotherapists.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

GCSE - Minimum of five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above (including English Language and Literature, Mathematics and a Science subject) or equivalent.

A levels - 3 A levels or an approved access course.

University - Undergraduate degree in Psychology that is accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS) that leads to "Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership" with the BPS.

Postgraduate training - doctorate in Clinical Psychology degree 3 years full time, Upper Second Class degree (dependent on the university).

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.hcpc-uk.org.uk
- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-professions

ESTATES & FACILITIES

Estates and facilities look after the places where care is delivered, both the buildings themselves and the systems that keep them running. Facilities managers ensure that the services that patients need during their stay in hospital are available and meet the required standards.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE SERVICES YOU CAN WORK IN:

- Catering - Roles include preparing and delivering meals to patients, serving food and maintaining high standards in the kitchen. More senior roles range from running catering departments to a trust's entire catering service
- Cleaning - You will help keep the hospital environment safe and clean for patients, visitors and staff. In a management role, you'll plan the work and organise the teams
- Environmental services - You will help to keep trust grounds green and attractive for patients, visitors and staff
- Engineers - In this role you will manage hospital maintenance programmes - from heating systems to preparing important machinery
- Estate Technicians - Technicians test and maintain vital specialist equipment, such as sterilisers, fire alarms and intruder alarms. In an emergency, you might be called out to a patient's home to test or repair an essential medical device
- Housekeepers - You will work with senior nurses to make sure wards are clean, safe and welcoming for patients and visitors. Some also supervise patient transport and clerical and linen services
- Laundry Managers/Assistants - A laundry service is essential for patients' comfort and hygiene. Laundry managers ensure that supplies of spotlessly clean linen are available when and where they are needed
- Porters – Porters ensure goods and items are delivered where they are needed most. This might include blood samples, linen, post, gas cylinders. They also make sure patients are at the right place at the right time for their treatment moving them in wheelchairs or on trolleys

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Entry requirements vary dependent on the role; often on-the-job training is offered. **USEFUL LINKS:**

www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/estates-and-facilities

DENTISTRY

Most staff working in Dentistry work in general practices, providing care to people from the local community. Alternatively, you may choose to specialise in certain types of treatment, work in a dental hospital, other hospitals or in a community dental service. Dentists who work in hospitals will be responsible for a range of jobs, such as root canal fillings, teeth replacements, orthodontics, oral surgery, and pathology, as well as preventive and public health initiatives.

- Dentists
- Dental Nurses
- Hygienists
- Dental Technicians

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Entry requirements vary depending on level of role and could include:
GCSE - Minimum of five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above (including English Language and Literature, Mathematics and a Science subject) or equivalent.
A levels - High Grades - 3 A levels in Chemistry, Biology and Physics or Mathematics or an approved access course.

University - BDS Dentistry - 5 years, optional extra year for further research (dependent on university). Once qualified and registered with the GDC, you will do one year's foundation training before you can work as a principal or associate in a general dental practice or start further specialist training in one of the hospital specialties.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.gdc-uk.org
- www.bda.org
- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/roles-dental-team/dentist/entry-requirements-and-training-dentistry

FINANCE

The Health and Social Care sector needs to ensure that its funds are properly controlled and wisely spent. Within the finance team, staff have a range of roles to play, depending on where they work and the level of responsibility that they hold.

WORKING IN FINANCE YOU MIGHT BE:

- Managing budgets and making key decisions on spending
- In accounts, handling payments for goods and services
- Using computer-based systems to track financial activity or to audit expenditure and income

Finance staff are based within an organisation at Trust and local government headquarters. Typical job roles include Finance Officer, Finance Clerk, Accounting Technician, Finance Assistant, Payment Assistant, Ledger Clerk and Finance Analyst. More senior posts include roles such as Finance Director, Business Accountant, and Head of Finance and Management.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

To enter as a trainee you will usually need at least 2 GCSEs at Grade C/4 including English and Maths.

Many organisations offer the chance to train through an apprenticeship. The Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) is an ideal entry route into the accounting professions where you can study for a Certificate or Diploma. For more senior roles you will need a qualification that is recognised by the AAT or the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies (CCAB). There are courses offered at university for Finance and Accounting for which A levels or equivalent qualifications are usually required.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.aat.org.uk
- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/corporate-services/finance-staff

HEALTH CARE SUPPORT WORKER

Health Care Support Workers in Derbyshire are a vital part of the health and social care workforce and include health care assistants, care assistants, support workers, and adult care workers. They work across a variety of settings from mental health, learning disabilities, children's services, rehabilitation to adult care. As a health care support worker, you will work under the supervision of a health care registered professional, supporting them and helping patients and service users on their journey back to full health. You will have a demanding but rewarding career. Your day-to-day duties will depend on the role and service you work within. If you work within a hospital or in the community your job may include:

- Helping patients with their mobility
- Monitoring and recording health checks
- Providing advice and support with lifestyle choices
- Assisting your patients with washing and dressing
- Wound care
- Take blood samples
- Helping patients to eat and drink

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

No set entry requirements, but good literacy and numeracy skills are expected, in some cases GCSEs (or equivalent) in English and maths. For some roles you may need a healthcare qualification such as a BTEC or NVQ. Experience of 6 months healthcare or care work may be beneficial, e.g. paid or voluntary work, or through previous roles. However, academic qualifications aren't everything. You'll also need to be caring, kind and willing to really get stuck into the role – it's a hands-on environment where teamwork, communication and organisational skills are vital.

USEFUL LINKS:

Available Apprenticeship Standards:

<https://haso.skillsforhealth.org.uk/standards>

Joined Up Care Employers: <https://joinedupcareers.co.uk>

HUMAN RESOURCES

Across Health and Social Care, the Human Resources department deals with everything relating to the employment of staff. You will be involved in aspects such as recruitment, payroll, HR investigations and establishing new local and national employment policies. An important part of the job is understanding employment law and working closely with professional bodies and trade unions.

TYPICAL JOB ROLES:

- Human Resources Assistants
- Payroll Administrators
- HR Advisors
- HR Managers
- Recruitment Assistants
- Workforce Information Officers
- Learning and Development Advisors
- HR Directors

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Entry Requirements vary depending on the job role and could include the following: GCSE - Minimum of five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above (including English Language and Literature, Mathematics and a Science subject) or equivalent.

A levels - 3 A levels

University – Courses for Human Resource Management require A levels or equivalent qualifications. Incorporating the study of CIPD qualification is usually required for more senior roles, and roles such as Assistant HR Director may require a Master degree in Business Administration (MBA). The Health and Social Care sector offers the opportunity to develop while working within HR services.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/corporate-services/human-resources-staff
- www.cipd.co.uk

MANAGEMENT

Managers are a key part in the delivery of Health and Social Care, whether they are managing the talented, hardworking staff, controlling the finance, or providing equipment, buildings, and services.

Opportunities are many and varied - You could be a manager running a service or a Chief Executive controlling a large organisation with a budget of millions of pounds.

A CAREER TO SUIT YOUR INTERESTS

General managers in Health and Social Care cover a wide range of areas including:

- Strategic Management
- Project Management
- Service Management
- Performance and Quality
- Purchasing and Contract
- Compliance Management
- Communications and Corporate Affairs

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

You can join in a more junior role and work your way up into management. You will be able to take advantage of internal and external training schemes. For most junior positions you will need 5 GCSEs at grade A to C (9-4) or equivalent. Some organisations offer apprenticeships in administration which is a great way to earn and learn.

A levels - 3 A levels. You may be able to start at a higher administrative grade, leading to a supervisory role and then management.

University - Dependent on your degree and experience, you may be able to apply directly for junior management vacancies.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Careers-in-care/Job-roles/Job-roles-in-social-care.aspx
- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/exploreroles

MEDICINE

Medicine is about improving people's lives - treating diseases and illnesses and providing advice and reassurance. You examine the symptoms presented by a patient and consider a range of possible diagnoses. You must test your diagnosis, decide on the best course of treatment and monitor progress. This demands an enquiring mind, the capacity to acquire and maintain high levels of up-to-date knowledge, and the ability to relate to people as individuals. Once general medical training has been completed, further specialty training can be undertaken, to then apply for a consultant post. There is a large variety of specialties with their own colleges or faculties that set standards and require membership to practice.

HERE ARE JUST SOME OF THE FEW SPECIALITIES IN MEDICINE:

Anaesthetics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Ophthalmology, Paediatrics, Pathology, Psychiatry, Radiology, Surgery, Clinical Oncology, Emergency Medicine,
General Practice (GP), Medicine - General and Specialties

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

GCSE - Minimum of five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above (including English Language and Literature, Mathematics and a Science subject) or equivalent.
A levels - High grades - 3 A levels including Chemistry, Biology and Physics.
Some universities offer an additional pre-medical year for those without Science subjects at A Level.

University - Undergraduate course leading to Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery - 5 years, depending on university. This will lead to the following qualifications - MBBS; MBBS/ BSC; MBChB; MBBCh; BMBS. Some medical schools require applicants to have passed assessment tests such as UKCAT.

USEFUL LINKS: www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors

MIDWIFERY

Midwives are the lead professionals in the care and management of pregnancy and birth. They are instrumental in providing care to women and families with complex medical, obstetric, and social needs as part of the wider multi-professional team. Communication, teamwork, adaptability, and leadership are qualities which are essential to ensure women and their babies receive safe, effective, and individualised care.

The role of the midwife is holistic and versatile: Midwives working in the community could be providing services in women's homes, local clinics, children's centres and GP surgeries. In hospitals, they can be in antenatal services, fetal medicine, triage/pregnancy assessment unit, the labour ward, birth centre, postnatal ward and neonatal unit.

The opportunities for progression within midwifery may include specialist areas, such as drugs and alcohol, sonography, mental health, bereavement, diabetes, public health, research, teaching, clinical education. Progression can also be more operational, for example senior midwife, matron and management.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

GCSE – At least five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above (including English Language and Literature, Mathematics and a Science subject) or equivalent.
A levels or equivalent - 3 A levels (high grades), with Biology being one of the preferred subjects.

University - Undergraduate Midwifery Degree.

Note: May differ depending on the university.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.nmc-uk.org
- www.rcn.org.uk
- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/midwifery

NURSING

Nurses are a crucial part of the health and social care team. If you want to work in an environment that is interesting, rewarding and challenging, with versatile opportunities in terms of roles, then a career in nursing may be for you. They work in every sort of health and social care setting from accident and emergency to patients' homes, with people of all ages and backgrounds. Healthcare Support roles are a great entry position prior to studying to become a nurse.

ROLES AVAILABLE:

Depending on experience and training there are plenty of opportunities for you to develop in order to manage teams, run wards and even reach consultant level, if desired. There are many different roles available in nursing, for example:

District nurse, Neonatal nurse, Occupational Health nurse, Children's nurse, Theatre nurse, Adult nurse, Mental Health nurse, Learning disability nurse

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

GCSE - Minimum of five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above (including English Language and Literature, Mathematics, and a Science subject) or equivalent.

A levels or equivalent - 3 A levels or an approved access course.

University - BSc (Hons)/PgDip/BN (Hons) Nursing - 2/4 years depending on university.

Choose from the four fields of nursing: Adult, Children, Learning Disabilities or Mental Health.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.nmc-uk.org
- www.rcn.org.uk
- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/how-become-nurse
- www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Careers-in-care/Job-roles/Roles/Registered-Nurse

PATHOLOGY

Pathology provides an understanding of the process of disease and is multidisciplinary with five main specialties and further subspecialties. It's offering a great range of variety and combines clinical and laboratory work as well as offering scope for roles within research. All roles will require a broad and detailed knowledge of medicine.

Chemical Pathology - Chemical pathology doctors combine laboratory and clinical skills, using biochemical laboratory tests to diagnose disease and manage patients.

Haematology - Haematologists diagnose and treat patients with blood and bone marrow disorders. It's an intensive but exciting specialty with both clinical and laboratory practice, and a field that is rapidly changing, with great research successes seen in front-line medicine.

Histopathology - Microscopic examination of tissues taken, and assessed for the purpose of diagnosis, prognosis and directing appropriate treatment.

Microbiology and Virology – Laboratory-based specialty which deals with the diagnosis, management and control of infections (viral, bacterial, fungal and parasitic) in both hospital and general practice.

Immunology - Involved in the study diagnosis and management of conditions involving the immune system.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

After completion of the Foundation Programme, doctors can competitively apply for run-through posts in Chemical Pathology, Histopathology, Medical Microbiology and Virology. Upon completion of the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) and having passed college exams, doctors can then apply for consultant posts.

Haematology and Immunology are uncoupled specialties and the route into these requires two years of core medical training. After successful completion of the training and passing the MRCP Part 1 exam, trainees would then apply to specialty training in these fields.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.rcpath.org/discover-pathology/what-is-pathology.html
- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/pathology

PHARMACY

Helping people live longer and healthier lives depends on the safe use of medicines and excellent healthcare advice. You'll combine a love of science with a desire to improve lives and be rewarded with a stimulating career across a range of settings and industries. Pharmacists can lead the pharmacy team and work with patients, members of the public and healthcare professionals to advise on the most effective treatments for certain conditions and how to use medicines safely and effectively.

Pharmacy Technicians can lead the pharmacy team and work with patients and members of the public and healthcare professionals. You could be managing the supply of medicines from a community pharmacy, or you could be manufacturing or preparing complex medicines in a hospital.

Pharmacy Support Staff perform a variety of roles, for example, dispensing medicines, or being involved in the manufacturing of medicines and ordering items for wards in a hospital.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Pharmacists - Registration with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) requires completion of an MPharm degree at university and practical training in a foundation training year programme. Entry requirements for the degree at university vary, but usually include 3 A levels including chemistry.

Pharmacy Technicians - Registration with the GPhC requires completion of a GPhC approved competency and knowledge-based qualification at level 3. Vocational training, usually as an apprenticeship, takes 2 years involving study and practical application in the workplace.

Entry requirements can vary, but usually include a minimum of five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above (including English Language, Mathematics and one Science subject) or equivalent.

Pharmacy Support Staff - No specific educational requirements, undertake on-the-job workplace training, usually as an apprenticeship, working towards an approved training programme.

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.pharmacyregulation.org/education
- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/Pharmacy

SOCIAL WORK

Social Workers offer support, counselling and advocacy to individuals and families, and intervene when vulnerable people need safeguarding support. They work with individuals to identify needs and develop plans and responses. Social Workers effectively manage a designated caseload to achieve the best outcomes for individuals, groups and communities and provide leadership and expertise to empower individuals, groups and communities to achieve change.

Social Workers support a variety of people including older people, those with learning disabilities, physical disabilities, and mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, schizophrenia and personality disorders. Social Workers also work in Child Protection, Fostering, Disabled Children, Youth Justice and Leaving Care.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

GCSE - 5 GCSEs A-C/4-9 including English, Mathematics and a Science subject.

A levels - 3 A levels or an equivalent Level 3 qualification

University - Undergraduate Degree in Social Work (Social Work England)

Specific skills needed to work in this role:

- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Ability to work on own initiative and with other organisations and local people/community groups
- Understanding relevant legal powers to protect people's rights
- Problem solving skills to advise people on the best support for them
- Be accountable for actions, values, attitudes and beliefs
- Digital skills to keep records and find information online
- Skills to work under conflicting pressures and ethical dilemmas
- Time management and ability to schedule and plan ahead

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/clinical-support-staff/social-worker
- www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Topics/Social-work/Social-work.aspx
- <https://www.socialworkengland.org.uk/standards/professional-standards>

VOLUNTEERING

Becoming a volunteer can be a life-changing opportunity for individuals. It enables individuals to contribute to their local community and employers whilst gaining employability and life skills. Volunteers can decide how much time they would like to give to volunteering and decide which services, charities, and employers they would like to be involved with.

On-the-job training is provided with most providers, as well as orientation to enable volunteers to maximise the experience for volunteers, employers and service users.

SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF BECOMING A VOLUNTEER ARE:

- Gain employability skills which can be transferrable
- Increase your self-confidence
- Improve your communication skills
- Building a personal portfolio
- Meet people from various cultural and social backgrounds
- Provides a sense of purpose
- Build a personal portfolio
- Get the job you want
- Make new friends
- Help build your community

USEFUL LINKS:

- www.helpguide.org/articles/healthy-living/volunteering-and-its-surprising-benefits.htm
- www.england.nhs.uk/get-involved/get-involved/volunteering/

WORK EXPERIENCE

Joined Up Careers Derbyshire can help you gain vital work experience in the health and social care sector. We promote opportunities in the workplace through our partner NHS, local authority and voluntary sector organisations.

We can also link you in with interactive and innovative virtual work experience programmes via our partnership with Springpod – keep an eye on our webpage for new programmes opening up. Such opportunities will help you develop key skills, gain real-life experience and provide a great addition to the CV.

USEFUL LINKS:

- <https://joinedupcareers.co.uk/work-experience>
- <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk>

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

Here are some other things to help you on your path:

What are you doing at the moment?	What could you do next?	Who can help?
Studying GCSEs	<p>Check what your likely exam grades/results will be.</p> <p>Explore routes into your chosen career. Will you need a degree or other qualifications or will Health and Social Care train you on-the-job?</p> <p>Are there particular skills or experience that will improve your chances?</p> <p>Enquire about volunteering or work experience.</p> <p>Find out if you need any specific A levels or equivalent qualifications.</p>	Subject Teachers, your careers adviser, Health and Social Care Professional Bodies, Apprenticeship website
Studying for A levels or another course at your school or local college	GCSEs plus: If you need to study a particular degree, investigate which universities offer it. Investigate any further qualifications you might need for your chosen role.	Subject Teachers Your careers adviser UCAS Health and Social Care Professional Bodies NHS Jobs National Careers Service
At university	A levels plus: It is vital to check which qualifications are preferred by your favourite institute of higher education.	University careers service, Health and Social Care Professional Bodies, NHS Jobs

USEFUL LINKS

www.nhscareers.nhs.uk

www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Careers-in-care/job-roles

www.stepintothenhs.nhs.uk

www.hcpc-uk.co.uk

www.nmc.org.uk

www.gmc-uk.org

www.joinedupcareers.co.uk

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/working-for-us/jobs/careers-service/careers-service.aspx

www.jobs.derbyshire.gov.uk

www.derby.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/

www.derby.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/careers-advice/



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