

March 8th, 2016

Chance to find out about NHS apprenticeships

School leavers and their parents will be able to find out more about job opportunities in the NHS at an event at South Tyneside District Hospital on Wednesday, March 16th, to celebrate National Apprenticeship Week.

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust, which provides hospital services in South Tyneside and community services in South Tyneside, Sunderland and Gateshead, introduced apprenticeship programmes for young people in 2010. Since then, it has recruited 84 apprentices, the majority of whom have gone on to achieve nationally-recognised qualifications and have progressed into employment or further and higher education.

The Trust's apprentices gain practical experience in a range of supervised placements in both hospital and community settings and attend a training session one day a week. They are issued with a contract of employment for 12 months whilst on the programme and receive a training allowance.

Learning and Development Manager Carole Plowman said: "Young people can often find it difficult to get started in employment and apprenticeships such as ours can give them a foot in the door. At the end of each programme, we encourage and support our apprentices to apply for posts with the Trust and some have joined us as nurses and in business and administration roles. In our last two programmes, we had a 100 per cent success rate in terms of our apprentices finding employment, not only in the NHS, or going into further or higher education."

National Apprenticeship Week celebrates apprenticeships and the positive impact they have on individuals, businesses and the wider economy. The Trust's event will be on Wednesday, March 16th, from 4pm to 6pm, in Alexander's restaurant at South Tyneside District Hospital. Current apprentices will be there to talk about their personal experiences.

Anyone interested in finding out more about apprenticeships with South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust, should contact Mrs Plowman on 0191 4041000, extension 2760, or email carole.plowman@stft.nhs.uk
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Issued on behalf of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust by Kay Jordan

For press enquiries on this release, contact 0191 404 1128 or email kay.jordan@stft.nhs.uk