

**PRESS RELEASE – JULY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2018**

**Trust sows the seeds for South Tyneside pupils to become  
medical professionals of the future**

An event at South Tyneside District Hospital aimed at inspiring students to become the doctors, nurses and healthcare scientists of the future was attended by 90 pupils from schools across South Tyneside.

The 'Discover Medicine' day was the first of its kind organised in South Tyneside by South Tyneside and City Hospitals NHS Foundation Trusts' Workforce Development team. It followed a similar successful event at Sunderland Royal Hospital.

The programme for Years 9 and 10 pupils included talks and interactive workshops delivered by South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust staff, as well as colleagues working in primary care and from Health Education England North East.

Dr Mickey Jachuck, Deputy Director of Medical Education at South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust, said: "We want to demonstrate to the young people of South Tyneside that there are some fantastic career opportunities in Medicine. Hopefully, what they saw and heard at our Discover Medicine event will encourage and inspire them to consider this when they come to deciding their future. Who knows, they might even end up working at their local hospital, where we have a highly trained, highly enthusiastic faculty of trainers to teach and guide them."

Both South Tyneside and City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trusts are also working with the University of Sunderland to widen participation in medical education and encourage pupils with the right academic abilities to take up careers in Medicine and Healthcare Science and stay in the area to address workforce gaps in the North East.

Kath Griffin, Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development for South Tyneside and City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trusts, said: “One of our main ambitions is to be the employer of choice in the North East of England and our Discover Medicine events and our close working with the University of Sunderland are important ways of sowing the seeds of interest in local young people in careers within the NHS – and particularly with us.”

**ENDS**

Issued by **Kay Jordan**

For press enquiries on this release, contact **0191 404 1128** or email

[kay.jordan@stft.nhs.uk](mailto:kay.jordan@stft.nhs.uk)