

Our nursing and midwifery people

Janet Dodd – Ward Manager, Sheffield Children’s Hospital

On a typical day

I start my shift at 7am and join the team for handover for the patients on our 24 bedded paediatric surgical ward. I ensure the ward is safe and try to make contact with patients and families on the ward and support staff throughout the shift. I am a central point for the multidisciplinary team, involved in decision making and planning care. I enjoy working clinically for part or full shifts on the ward every week; this is still the most rewarding part of the role. My office-based time is looking at the day to day management of the ward such as the rota, sickness, staff development and morale, recruitment and retention, investigating incidents and ensuring audits are complete as well as attending trust meetings and managing change. Every day is busy, however no day is the same, but even on the most stressful days someone will have made you smile and you will have made a difference.



One way I’ve made a difference as a nurse or midwife

I hope I have made a difference by being there for patients, families and staff when they needed to talk to someone. Listening is a large part of my role and offering support not just for clinical issues but taking the time to listen to whatever people need to discuss can help people cope with their day or circumstances.

What would you say to someone considering a career in nursing or midwifery?

As a nurse you share your work life with amazing families, patients and colleagues; it is hard work and long hours, but you can really make a difference and feel proud of your achievements. Nursing makes you think about the needs of others and is a career where you learn something new every day.

Find out more about our nursing and midwifery people stories, and how you can submit yours, by contacting us at: England.nursingmidwifery@nhs.net

