

Our nursing and midwifery people

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On a typical day

There is no typical day, which is what I enjoy about my role. I can be at an integrated care system meeting, agreeing new healthcare strategies in the morning; and then in the afternoon, providing reassurance to a frail elderly patient coming into hospital on the emergency pathway.

I am passionate about advanced nurse practice and work in partnership with our clinicians to lead on the governance aspects of ensuring safe practice in this exciting nursing field.

Safe staffing is also a key element of my role and I ensure that this is achieved operationally on a daily basis and strategically through developing recruitment and retention campaigns, locally, nationally and internationally.

During the COVID-19 pandemic I have been working in partnership with the multi-professional senior team as the nurse commander in the incident response team.

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

I was one of the first nurse practitioners to work in an acute trust in the specialism of cardiothoracic nursing. Creating a whole new nursing role from nothing was an incredible experience that involved lots of policy and competency writing. Once competent I then designed a training programme for future nurse practitioners and the team grew from two to what is now a 20-person team in a nationally recognised role. Whilst this opportunity opened new doors for me, in clinical education and ultimately nurse management, I am to this day immensely proud of the role I created and the impact of the cardiothoracic nurse practitioner role on patient experience.

What would you say to a young person interested in a career in nursing or midwifery?

Never judge a book by its cover. Nursing is so much more than the traditional image. I've been nursing for 30 years and have had an amazing and varied career. You could too, just sign up.

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