

MKUH are proud to host many work experience students a year, with many reporting that they have gone on to study or work within healthcare.

We have created this directory to support with decision making when applying for a placement.

Please be aware that although listed, not every department can support work experience throughout the year so please list at least two or three preferences if possible.

Restrictions listed are area specific and in addition to existing entry criteria.

Due to demand for placements, we can only accept requests for placements from students who **live or study in Milton Keynes.**

This list is not exhaustive and should you have a keen interest in an area not listed below, please contact the work experience team to discuss (Please note that we DO NOT offer a Psychology specific placement)– workexperience@mkuh.nhs.uk

Please be aware students cannot be placed in Theatres, Critical Care, Surgery, or Pediatrics or other high risk areas. Please note all placement areas are observational only

There are also many virtual work experience opportunities and information. Here are a few which may be of interest:

Aspiring Allies – AHP Virtual Work Experience [Home - Aspiring Allies](#)
 Bedfordshire Health and Care Academy - [Home | BLMK Health and Care Academy](#)
 Medic Mentor - [Medic Mentor – Make A Difference](#)
 Health Careers Live - [Health Careers Live | Inspire Together | Award Winning Platform | Health Careers Live](#)

Area/Type of work	Nature of work experience	Age	Restrictions	Length of time
5 day Clinical Experience	Students will receive a 5 day programme. Day 1 and 2 includes an induction as well as tours and speakers. For day 3 and 4, students are placed on adult wards (not of your choice) and will shadow a HCA or nurse. Day 5 (which is half a day) includes more tours and speakers and a short celebration of achievement This placement has limited spaces, therefore students need to apply within a date window and applications are shortlisted.	16-18	Students interested in a career in healthcare.	5 day 2 programmes run per year: February (please email in Oct for details) July (please email in May for details)

Clinical Skills and Sim	The Clinical Skills and Simulation team are committed to improving and optimising patient safety and quality of care through the development and implementation of innovative, high quality sustainable training programmes. In our state of the art Simulation Suites, we deliver the best teaching opportunities we can and creating a safe and positive learning environment. Please note that the Simulations may be observed in ward areas. Please visit their twitter for an insight into the department https://twitter.com/SimMKUH	15 - 18		2-4 days
Maternity	Maternity care consists of Labour Ward, Ward 9/10, Antenatal Day Assessment Unit/Triage, Antenatal Clinic. Students will be able to shadow a maternity support worker within some of these areas. Student will most likely support and observe staff to care for women and families needing maternity care. This will include clinics, ward rounds and emergency care required. The hosting areas will be Ward 9/10.	16-18	Must have keen interest in maternity care	1-2 days
Catering	Our catering teams produce over 400,000 meals per year, both for inpatients and staff . We have a newly refurbished staff restaurant and students can experience what it is like to work in a busy production kitchen.	15-18		1-5 days
Emergency Department	Students are placed with a medical professional, shadowing clinicians in the low risk area of ED. The emergency department see a huge range of patients presenting with different illnesses as well as accidents and is a fast paced environment.	16-18	Students must be intending to study medicine, and be studying the appropriate A Levels in order to apply for medical school	1 day Set Dates during school holidays
Research and development	Students will be able to gain an understanding of health research. From receiving information about a study, looking at the feasibility of delivering it here and the regulations which ensure research is sound through the set-up and delivery/recruitment of participants to closing out. How this research impacts future healthcare and decisions about new medicines/treatments and disease knowledge. The student will shadow a variety of team members to view research from different perspectives and how the department works together and in collaboration with multiple departments across the Trust.	16-18	An interest in research	1 day

Communications & Engagement Team CURRENTLY ON HOLD	The Trust Communications team are responsible for all internal communications and engagement with staff as well as external communications to the public, patients, the media and other healthcare providers in Milton Keynes. The communications team undertake a variety of responsibilities inhouse such as ; staff wellbeing initiatives, event planning, digital/graphics work, consulting and PR work.	15-18	Students with an interest in Marketing or Communications	1-3 days
Pharmacy	A 2-day programme will be given to the students where they will shadow Pharmacists/ Pharmacy technicians within different roles of pharmacy. The activities can offer a comprehensive understanding of the pharmacy settings and its diverse responsibilities.	16-18	Interest in Pharmacy, Medicine or general healthcare	2 days (June and July only)
Endoscopy	The Endoscopy Unit offers a range of procedures that diagnose and treat conditions in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract and lungs across 2 sites. These busy unit runs morning and afternoon sessions treating both outpatients and inpatients on a daily basis Monday through to Saturday. Milton Keynes Hospital unit (where placements will be based) comprises of 4 treatment rooms, an 11-bay recovery room; reception and 2 admitting rooms, 2 discharge rooms and waiting areas. We also have onsite decontamination service. You will be assigned a supervisor to help support your work experience placement. Students will be able to observe the patient journey from admission, possibility to observe endoscopy procedures, gain an insight on how to look after patients post procedure and the discharge process. You will be encouraged to interact with the patients , this can include , chatting and engaging in simple social activities.	16-18		1-3 days
TB Nursing Team	Mondays are reserved for the team meeting and handover catch up, where we review and discuss our current patient caseload. This is done in the morning. Home visits maybe conducted in the afternoon (if required). Otherwise, students can spend some time with each of the three team members to learn about their respective roles. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the student will have the opportunity to observe and join the TB Consultant Outpatient clinic, which will provide valuable knowledge, clinical exposure and learning.	16-18		3 day placement Monday to Wednesday

IT – NOT CURRENTLY ON OFFER	The student will be shown round and shadow engineers doing their day to day job, and spend some time learning about other departments in IT	15-18	Have an interest in an IT career	2-3 days
Medical Records	We are offering an exciting opportunity for individuals seeking work experience in the NHS, in an administrative role. This placement in the medical records department will provide hands-on exposure to the management, organization, and maintenance of patient records within a healthcare environment. Participants will gain a solid understanding of medical documentation processes, including the importance of confidentiality and accuracy in patient data handling. Ideal for those interested in healthcare administration, this experience will help develop key skills such as attention to detail, data management, and professional communication. Join us for an invaluable learning experience and contribute to the smooth operation of a vital department in healthcare	15-18		3-5 days
Day Surgery Unit	Our Day Surgery Unit composes of 23 trolleys and 7 recliner chairs. Patients are usually with us between two and twelve hours depending on the type of surgery they are having. We are a mixed ward that accepts adults and young people over the age of 16 who have been deemed suitable to follow the day surgery pathway. You will observe the admission process of day surgery patients. You will observe the post operative recovery and subsequent discharge of the patients on the same day. Please be aware that when on placement, you may only observe and shadow procedures and cannot take part in any medical procedures or move patients. Please note that this is a nurse-led unit and you will be placed with a HCA or nurse.	16-18		1-3days
Imaging – ON HOLD	The Imaging Department provides a variety of diagnostic services to the Trust and Milton Keynes GP Community which include CT, MRI, Ultrasound, Plain Film Imaging, Interventional, Contrast Studies, Breast Imaging and Fluoroscopy. We currently offer a day visit for prospective students from 8.30am-5pm Mon-Fri, where they will tour the department to get an overview of what we do. The students will rotate through a variety of areas for plain x-ray, inc fracture clinic, MRI, CT, fluoroscopy, ultrasound. They will observe how we image patients and then we will discuss images with the student.	17 -18	Must have an interest in Imaging, Medicine or general healthcare	1 day

Outpatients	An outpatient department or outpatient clinic is the part of a hospital designed for the treatment of outpatients, people with health problems who visit the hospital for diagnosis or treatment, but do not at this time require a bed or to be admitted for overnight care. The only areas not covered in this department are (Audiology, Dermatology & maxillofacial). It covers almost everything and is a very varied and can be a very fast paced area. Students may be involved in chaperoning (but not on your own) procedures and treatments (eg colorectal bandings, gynae examinations etc. Shadowing clinical staff completing procedures such as flow tests in urology, blood tests and injections is neuro, aspirations and samples of lumps in the breast care team.	16-18	Student who have a genuine interest in a career in nursing / healthcare support worker roles.	2-3 days
Oncology & Cancer Centre	Students will have the opportunity to shadow the multi-disciplinary team that works within Oncology. This includes medical, nursing and support services. Milton Keynes Cancer Centre brings together under one roof all hospital cancer services. It offers oncology, clinical haematology and cancer-related chemotherapy services, inpatient, and outpatient services alongside a wellbeing support service. It provides a dedicated space offering treatment and a wide range of information and support services to anyone affected by cancer, all within a comfortable and welcoming environment that is also appropriate for patients' families. Within the Wellbeing Lounge, which offers information and support in the Cancer Centre, there is a group activity room, a therapy studio for patient clinic appointments and an information lounge. The wellbeing team includes a physiotherapist, dietitian and psychologist who work within the lounge alongside nurses in supporting patients, assisted by volunteers who offer a listening ear.	16-18	Students will need to consider the emotional aspect to a placement in this area, as you may observe the imparting of bad news.	1-3 days
Optometry	Students will have the opportunity to experience what life as an Optometrist in the hospital is like. Students will be able to observe professionals assessing, diagnosing and treating a wide variety of eye disorders.	16-18		1-2 days
Practice Education / Corporate Nursing	The Practice Education Team are responsible for facilitating clinical skills training with the Trust. In addition to this, they coordinate and manage student nursing placements and support as well as nursing apprenticeships.	15-18		1-3 days

Physiotherapy	This 3 day programme provides students with the opportunity to observe physiotherapists across a variety of specialisms within the hospital. Students will have the opportunity to observe outpatient clinics such as musculoskeletal and respiratory outpatients and will also observe inpatient physiotherapists assessing and treating patients on the wards for example stroke, orthopaedics and frailty.	16+		3 days Set programme Tuesday – Thursday on selected dates
AHP (Allied Health Professional)	For students who have an interest in becoming an allied health professional but are perhaps unsure which profession is most suited to them. Students will be able to shadow Physiotherapists, Occupational therapists, Orthotists and dieticians across a 3 day placement. Students will have the opportunity to observe inpatient and outpatient teams across a variety of specialisms and professions. In summary, students will be able to observe multidisciplinary team working and the holistic care provided by allied health professionals.	16+		3 days Set programme Tuesday – Thursday on selected dates
Dentistry	Shadowing the Maxillofacial team	16-18		2 days. This is run on set dates
Ward 3 CURRENTLY ON HOLD	Whilst we accept patients of all ages, most of our patient are frail elderly, often with complex multiple co-morbidities. We specialise in Frailty, Dementia Care and Complex Discharge Planning. Our overarching philosophy is that we should meet the patients agenda rather than expecting them to meet ours. We are passionate advocates of individualised and flexible patient care. You will observe essential nursing care (support with hygiene, continence, nutrition, mobility) The role of the multidisciplinary team (Doctors, therapists, related professionals) .As well as observing the team in practice you will be encouraged to interact with the patients , this can include , chatting and engaging in simple social activities.	16-18		1-3 days
Ward 7	Ward 7 is a 24-bed Hyper-Acute Stroke Unit. Whilst we accept patients with a range of medical conditions, we specialise in caring for patients following a stroke. We are proud of our 7 day a week thrombolysis service that has been running since October 2017, allowing patients suffering a stroke to be treating in Milton Keynes. We specialise in the acute medical management of a stroke but also place emphasis on	16-18		1-3 days

	rehabilitation, encouraging patients to set their own goals and helping them to achieve them. You will observe essential nursing care and be primarily placed with a nurse or HCA. The role of the multidisciplinary team (Doctors, therapists, related professionals) .As well as observing the team in practice you will be encouraged to interact with the patients , this can include , chatting and engaging in simple social activities.			
Ward 16	Ward 16 Ward 16 is part of the medical division – internal medicine. This is a 29 bedded female respiratory ward. Ward 16 treats patient with respiratory conditions alongside other medical conditions that may be co-existing. During your time on the ward there are many pathways for you to explore and make the most of in conjunction to your learning of respiratory patients. We work with members of the multi-disciplinary team such as Respiratory Advanced Practitioner, Lung Macmillan Nurse Practitioner, Palliative team, Physiotherapists, Occupational therapist, discharge co-ordinators and Dieticians. The respiratory nurse specialist on the ward can offer you support and teaching with regards to NIV (BIPAP and CPAP), Oxygen therapy and Inhaler techniques.	16-18		3 days
Ward 22	Ward 22 consists of 20 beds and 5 side rooms of Gastroenterology / hepatology & general medicine patients. We fall under the remit of Specialist medicine. We receive patients mostly from Medical Admissions Unit (MAU), A&E & other wards within MKUH. We provide holistic care 24/7. You will observe essential nursing care and be primarily placed with a nurse or HCA. The role of the multidisciplinary team (Doctors, therapists, related professionals). As well as observing the team in practice you will be encouraged to interact with the patients , this can include , chatting and engaging in simple social activities	16-18		1-3 days
Ward 23	Ward 23 is a fast based, acute ward with 40 beds. Ward 23 is a surgical ward looking after both men & women who need hospital based care following traumatic injuries, orthopaedic & ear nose & throat (ENT) surgery. Our philosophy is to provide a multidisciplinary team approach including Doctors, Nurses, Physiotherapists and Occupational therapists to support our patients to get back to or as close to their pre-injury, pre - operative fitness and ability level as soon as possible. You will observe essential nursing & rehabilitation care and be primarily placed with a nurse or HCA. The role of the multidisciplinary team (Doctors, therapists, related professionals) .As well as observing the team in practice you will be encouraged to	16-18		1-3 days

	interact with the patients , this can include , chatting and engaging in simple social activities.			
Ward 24	We are a 20 bedded area which looks after most types of surgical patient pre and post operatively. In our role we admit patients that have had an operation or procedure, we carry out skin and nutritional assessments on admission. We empower the patient to regain independence and liaise with physiotherapy and the surgical teams. When the patient is medically fit, they are discharged sometimes with ongoing care. Students will be able to observe the patient journey from admission they can observe how to carry out skin inspections and have an insight into the assessments used on e-care. They can be shown how to look after surgical drains, stomas, dressings, catheter care. They will see how we carry out breakfast, lunch and dinner and how we order specific menus specifically for the patients we nurse. They will gain an insight on how to look after the post-surgical patient immediately after arrival to the ward. This is a nurse-led observation and you will be placed primarily with a nurse or HCA	16-18		1-3 days