

Occupational Therapy

Work experience opportunities

Work experience is really important if you're considering a career in Occupational Therapy (OT). It will help you know you're making the right career choice and demonstrate to universities that you have an understanding of what the role will involve.

Your work experience doesn't have to be in a paid, clinical hospital environment. However, we want to see that you've gained an insight into what being an OT is like to show your commitment to the course. It will also develop your self-confidence, empathy and respect for others as well as giving you the satisfaction that you're making a difference to patients, clients or staff.

We know it can be difficult to find work experience so we've highlighted some of the opportunities in our trust partners that provide work experience for students. Alternatively visit these websites: www.do-it.org or www.vinspired.com.

Other work experience ideas include:

- Working with Beavers, Rainbows, Brownies, Cubs, Scouts and Guides
- Helping in youth clubs/projects and play schemes
- Volunteering at a care home or hospital, e.g. chatting to patients or giving out tea/coffee
- Helping at night shelters/soup kitchens
- Supporting Age Concern befriending schemes
- Working at charity shops.



Location	Talk on the phone	Meeting to discuss role	Day's work experience	Week's work experience	Contact
Adult Mental Health (Rehab) Bournemouth	√	√	√	J	Caroline Wawman 01202 584301 caroline.wawman@dhuft.nhs.uk www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk
Blandford Community Hospital	√	√	(attend a home visit)		Deborah Mann 01258 394018 www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk
Dorchester County Hospital Foundation Trust			√		Julia Taylor Julia.taylor@dchft.nhs.uk www.dchft.nhs.uk
Dorset Council, Social Services	√	√	(up to 2 days)		Amy-Jane White amy-jane.white@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (placements only available to Nottingham residents)			√	J	Louise Storry 01623 848871 www.tinyurl.com/hak437g nottsworkexperience.em@hee.nhs.uk
Oxford University Hospitals NHA Foundation Trust			J	J	OUH.workexperience@ouh.nhs.uk 01865 740345 www.ouh.nhs.uk/working-for-us/jobs/ work-experience.aspx
Poole Hospital Foundation Trust	√		√		Helen Cole helen.cole@poole.nhs.uk www.poole.nhs.uk
Portsmouth Hospital	J	J	J		Jo Reeks 02392 286130 Joanna.reeks@porthosp.nhs.uk www.porthosp.nhs.uk
Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals	√				Olivia Powis Olivia.powis@rbch.nhs.uk www.rbch.nhs.uk
Salisbury Hospital			(up to 2 days)		Trust Voluntary Services department 01722 429026 www.salisbury.nhs.uk
Somerset	√	√	(up to 2 days)		Melloney Johnson 01823 357486 mzjohnson@somerset.gov.uk www.somerset.gov.uk/
University Hospital Southampton				(three hours per week over 6 months)	workexperience@uhs.nhs.uk 02381205520 www.uhs.nhs.uk/WorkingHere/ Volunteering/Workexperience.aspx
Weldmar Hospice Care		√			01305 215322 emily.curran@weld-hospice.org.uk jane.smith@weld-hospice.org.uk www.weld-hospice.org.uk/
West Dorset CAMHS Childrens Centre, Dorchester		1			Sarah Stockham 01305 255705 Sarah.stockham@nhs.net www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk
West London NHS Trust	√	√	√		Helen Lycett helen.lycett@westlondon.nhs.uk www.westlondon.nhs.uk
Yeovil District Hospital			√		Susie Pitts Susie.pitts@ydh.nhs.uk www.yeovilhospital.co.uk