



**Manchester University**  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Meet the apprentice

We are introducing to you **Danniell Horrocks**, a nursing associate apprentice at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust.

**1**

How did you get your apprenticeship?

Previously, I was a healthcare assistant on the children's high dependency unit, where I gathered many skills which complemented the Nursing Associate role perfectly. I was told to apply for the new role and got accepted on my first attempt. The challenge I have is that I work with adults instead of children, but I absolutely love both areas.

**2**

What is the study model like and what types of things have you been doing in your off-the-job learning?

I attend University of Bolton one day a week and work 4 days a week in the Trust (30 hours per week). I have been doing exams, assignments, OSCE, practical clinical skills such as ANTT practice and much more. My course follows the first two years of the BSc Nursing degree.

**3**

What has been the hardest part?

Trying to fit in time for myself as the course is very busy whilst battling the coursework and time at university as well as spending time on the wards. I am also on the committee for LGBT rights in the trust, this is to ensure that LGBT+ patients and staff get access to services without discrimination. So yes it's a busy course but it's also very rewarding.

**4**

What has been the best part?

Meeting different people every day and going home knowing I have made an impact in at least one person's life, it makes me smile every time I walk through the doors at the trust.

**5**

What do you hope to do next?

I hope to top up and become a fully registered nurse with a BSc degree and then eventually top up to a master's degree to further help both the trust and patients I come into contact with.

**6**

What tips do you have for people who want to do the same apprenticeship as you?

Go for it, the road may be hard, and you will feel like giving up at times but persevere and you will have a career that makes you feel satisfied each and every day.

**The world needs more nurses.**