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 – [workexperience@mkuh.nhs.uk](mailto: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

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| **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 includes an induction as well as tours and speakers. For day 2 and 3 , students are placed on adult wards with a named mentor. Day 4 has a debrief, further speakers and a celebration event. Day 5 is a half a day session, followed by a short celebration of achievement | 16-18 | Students interested in a career in healthcare. | 5 day  2 programmes run per year, usually in February and July. |
| Pathology | Pathology services is responsible for up to 80% of diagnostic testing and screening services to both the acute trust and the community healthcare services. The Department is made up of Biochemistry, Haematology, Blood Transfusion, Cellular Pathology, Mortuary and Microbiology.  We can offer detailed laboratory tour around each department showing the equipment and processes used in diagnostic testing in the lab and a short interactive lecture/Q&A on a particular topic. | 16-18 | Awareness that they will encounter blood, fluids and tissue. | 1 – 3 days (depending on advanced planning/timing) |
| 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 visit their twitter for an insight into the department <https://twitter.com/SimMKUH> | 15 - 18 |  | 2-5 days |
| Maternity | Maternity care consists of Labour Ward, Ward 9/10, Antenatal Day Assessment Unit/Triage, Antenatal Clinic and Community. Students will be able to shadow healthcare professionals 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. Areas that are most likely to host students are Ward 9/10 and Antenatal Clinic. | 16-18 | **Must have keen interest in maternity care** | 1-3 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 for two days, 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 | 2 days  Set Dates during school holidays |
| Finance and Procurement | Students will receive a 4-day program covering aspects of both Finance and Procurement.  **1. Financial Services** – covering areas such as capital accounting, charity accounting, international accounting standards, annual accounts, balance sheet, treasury & accounts payable and receivables.  **2. Financial Management** – covering areas such as budgeting, management accounting, budgetary meetings, journalling, budget statements &automation.  **3. Procurement** covers areas such as ordering, business partnering, statistics, clinical procurement, strategic procurement, and apprenticeships in procurement | 16-18 | Must be interested in pursuing a career in Finance or Procurement. | 4 days |
| 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 | 2 days |
| Communications & Engagement Team | 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 |
| Day Surgery Unit | Our Day Surgery Unit composes of 23 trollies 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. | 16-18 |  | 1-3days |
| Human Resources | Predominantly working within an office environment and assisting the teams in the day-to-day running of the department.  Students will gain an insight into Human Resources in a health care setting.  Students will experience undertaking clerical duties and problem solving in a fast paced environment and will be given the opportunity to carry out general administrative tasks in regards to Human Resources  Students may also be invited to attend and observe meetings across the functions; this will be dependent on the nature of the meetings and what meetings are scheduled at the time of the placement. | 16-18 | Must be intending to study HR/ People Professional at university | 1 day |
| Imaging | 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 9am-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 |
| Medical Examiners Office & Bereavement | The Bereavement Team provide support to Doctors for the production of medical certificates of cause of death and act as the liaison between medical staff and families.  We work closely with the coroners service and have links with the Register Office.  In the hospital we provide education to nursing/medical staff i.e. after death care and giving staff the opportunity to work with us so they can provide good compassionate care to patients and relatives alike. | 15-18 | Interest in a medical examiners or bereavement role | 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 |
| Ward 3 | 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 rehabilitation, encouraging patients to set their own goals and helping them to achieve them.  You will observe essential nursing care. 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 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. 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. 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 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. | 16-18 |  | 1-3 days |