

## Questions for current management trainees: Daniel Peacock

### **Why did you choose HHFT as one of your placements?**

I was placed here as my first placement but chose to come back here after another placement as I really enjoyed working with the team in which I was placed as well as enjoying the support and guidance I was given both by my managers and senior leaders in the hospital.

### **What corporate and clinical placements did you experience at HHFT during your orientation to the Trust?**

As part of my orientation in the Trust I explored many parts - from the corporate side I met all the Executives as well as the Chairman, I attended public and closed board meetings, attended a senior managers team meeting both for the Trust and for a specific Division and spent time shadowing senior leaders with all the Divisions to see what they do.

As I am on the finance stream I also met with a lot of the finance team to discuss their role and attended meetings where financial positions were reported and discussed. I spent some time going to visit the local CCG's that commission the trust as well as going to the CSU to see what role they play. From this I also attended some contracting meetings to see how these were managed.

I managed to get around lots of different areas of the hospital whilst on orientation which included; going into a couple of surgery lists, spending an evening in ED, doing a Friday night shift in an ambulance,

spending time with the radiologists, having day with the therapies teams, going on a ward round with a consultant, portering for a day, helping on a ward for a day, spending time with catering and seeing how patient meals work and finding out about the haemophilia department and many more!

### **How did placement in those environments help with your learning?**

It prepared me really well for the rest of my placement as it gave me a crash course in lots of things that happen within an acute Trust as well as introducing me to the different divisions and workings of the hospital.

I found it really helpful as it enabled me to see the issues faced by all staff in the Trust which encourages me to think situations through from their shoes. It also enabled me to share practices that I had seen in other teams with the team I was working in.

### **Please list what meetings and forums you were involved in during your placement and how useful these were:**

I regularly attend the monthly In Touch where the chief exec gives an overview as to what is happening within the trust which is really useful to understand different things that occur in a hospital as well as allowing an opportunity to ask questions about concerns/positives.

I have attended some Schwartz centre rounds that are run by the hospital which give an opportunity to listen to something being discussed and then encouraging reflection around the topic, I find this very useful as reflection is a skill that I have identified for personal development.

There have been a few leadership forums that I have attended which allowed me to find out about higher level decision that are being made and helped me to learn more about how senior leaders make decisions and the thought processes they go through.

**What top tips would you recommend to prepare trainees for their HHFT placement?**

Ask and things will happen – don't be scared to ask for a meeting with the Chief Executive or go and observe a particular area of the hospital as 99% of the time it will happen.

It is a really supportive environment so make sure you make the most of the support.