Press Release

Gold standard work experience programme at Hampshire Hospitals

HAMPShIRE Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has been re-accredited as running a gold standard work experience programme for young people.

The Work Experience Quality Standard is a national accreditation which recognises those organisations offering high quality work experience opportunities.

The recognition comes after the Trust applied to be recognised as operating at gold level two years ago, and an audit at the end of 2017 confirmed that Hampshire Hospitals is still running an exemplary programme to help young people get their first taste of a workplace environment.

There are over 300 different careers within the NHS, and Hampshire Hospitals is committed to inspiring its future workforce to get first-hand experience of what it means to work as part of the Trust, and the future opportunities that may be available.

Over the last 12 months, Hampshire Hospitals provided placements for over 250 students aged 15 and over in a range of different work placements. The placements on offer vary from non-clinical roles in areas such as administration and medical records, to shadowing senior medical staff and clinical staff on wards.

The Trust works with education providers within the local community to give students this extraordinary first look into the world of the NHS. The young people who take advantage of the gold standard work experience programme come from secondary schools, sixth form colleges and through The Prince’s Trust.

Jude Davison, head of education and workforce development for the Trust said: “We are thrilled with the re-accreditation. It’s really important that young people can make informed decisions when thinking about what path they want to take. By offering placements from one to five days, students see first-hand what they might like to work towards, and hopefully feel inspired to work with us again in the future.”

Donna Green, chief nurse at Hampshire Hospitals, which runs Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital, Royal Hampshire County Hospital, in Winchester, and Andover War Memorial Hospital said: “Learning and development is incredibly important for all our staff, and for us this starts as early as offering opportunities to young people through our work experience programme. We are really proud of the opportunities we offer students here at Hampshire Hospitals, and I want to give thanks to the team who work so hard to make sure young people have a valuable work placement at the Trust.”

ENDS

PHOTO – Members of the education team at Hampshire Hospitals celebrating their success (Left to right: Megan Fell, Karen Bishop, Jude Davison)

Notes to Editors

1. Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust provides hospital services to a population of approximately 570,000 people in Hampshire and parts of West Berkshire.
2. HHFT has around 6,000 staff and a turnover of £385million a year.
3. HHFT delivers one hospital service across multiple locations including its own hospitals, Andover War Memorial Hospital, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital and Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester. It also provides outpatient and assessment services from Bordon and Alton community hospitals.
4. As a Foundation Trust, HHFT is accountable to the local community through a system of local ownership with members and elected governors. HHFT has around 18,000 staff and public members. Foundation Trusts are free from central government control and can reinvest any surplus to develop clinical services. They are authorised and regulated by NHS Improvement, an independent regulator.

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