

The NHS Cadets programme is a partnership between NHS England/NHS Improvement and St John Ambulance with local NHS Trust delivery partners. Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust has been selected as one of the first 7 Trusts nationally to deliver the NHS Cadets Programme.

NHS Cadets is a training programme designed specifically to give young people opportunities within the NHS that they may not have had access to previously. This programme mission statement has been developed in partnership with young people, leaders and health care professionals from across St John Ambulance and supported by the NHS.

“Our mission is to attract, develop and prepare 14 to 18-year olds to enter and be able to sustain themselves in health care volunteering opportunities. Specifically widening access to health volunteering from groups that have not traditionally entered these volunteering opportunities”
St John Ambulance 2019

The NHS Cadets programme aims to:

1. Deliver life skills through first aid and mental health first aid training and other role-appropriate training. This will not only be beneficial within the programme, but cadets will develop skills that could be utilised every day.
2. Develop the future health & care workforce – the programme will introduce young people to a range of health settings and roles, enabling them to learn more about potential careers.
3. Focus on developing the skills of young people in areas of deprivation – the programme will be focused on providing access to challenges and adventures that could transform young people’s lives.
4. Provide young people with access to social action and volunteering opportunities within health and care.
5. Provide young people with a better understanding of the NHS and appropriate use of services.

We are looking for 100 young people in Bradford District, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven to begin the programme in September 2020 to become an NHS Cadet. This initial recruitment is aimed at the **14-16-year-old age group**.

Programme Delivery

- The programme will take approximately 12 months to complete.
- The programme is extra-curricular and will include a 2-hour evening commitment once a week during term time.
- Due to COVID19, the method of delivery is to be confirmed. It may be a combination of face to face and virtual, therefore young people should have access to appropriate technology.
- The programme aims to give young people the opportunity to gain experience and volunteer with Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust – however that is currently also dependent on COVID19 and this element may be delayed until later in the programme.

The NHS Cadets programme is aimed at young people who may not know what they want to do as a future career (it is not aimed at those young people who already know they want a career in a health/NHS role). We want young people to be exposed to the full range of career options within the NHS, not just health, but also roles they do not realise there are, such as IT, finance, administration, catering and maintenance.