



University of  
**Salford**  
MANCHESTER

# MY APPRENTICESHIP

## Nursing Associate

### MEET OUR APPRENTICE

**NAME:** PAUL SMITH

**EMPLOYER:** SALFORD ROYAL  
FOUNDATION TRUST

**PROGRAMME:** TRAINEE  
NURSING ASSOCIATE

*“It’s a very rewarding experience,  
and you learn so much from  
spending the majority of time  
in practice.”*

### Why did you decide to do a degree apprenticeship?

I decided to go down the degree apprenticeship route as I wanted the ability to earn whilst I learn, and to gain work-based experience within the NHS.

### What are the benefits?

The apprenticeship allows me to take the next step up the ladder towards qualifying as a nurse whilst still earning a wage. I do one day a week at University and 30hrs a week on the ward. On my shifts, I shadow the registered nurse I’m paired with, taking responsibility under supervision for all aspects of that patient’s nursing care - assisting with personal cares, doing clinical observations including blood pressure and neuro jobs.

### Your advice to others?

Do it! It’s a very rewarding experience, and you learn so much from spending the majority of time in practice. It is tough in terms of time management, but it is manageable. You do have to be organised though! The teaching team at the University of Salford and my team of Practice Assessors and Supervisors at Salford Royal have gone out of their way to ensure I get the most out of my learning experience. Both have been fantastic.

### In one word?

Rewarding



# DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

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