

Dental Nursing Advanced Apprenticeship Level 3

Helping your organisation to be more
effective, productive and competitive

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Apprenticeships are the proven way to train your workforce. Apprenticeships can make your organisation more effective, productive and competitive by addressing your skills gaps directly, even in uncertain economic times.

The Dental Nursing team at South Thames College is staffed by professionals who themselves have trained and are all qualified dental nurses. Some are also working in practice so are up to date with the many changes that are happening within the sector.

Delivery and Costs

The majority of the funded training is for 16 to 18 year olds. For those aged 19+ government funding is reduced and Employers are required to make a fee contribution.

One day a week will be spent at College learning necessary job theory and developing key employment skills. Other Apprenticeships take place completely in the workplace and the College comes to you.

As the Employer you be required to give your Apprentices an induction into their role and provide on-the-job training. You are also responsible for paying your Apprentice a wage (16-18 and for those aged 19 and over in their first year of apprenticeship programme £2.50 p/h; 19-20 in second year of apprenticeship programme £4.92 p/h; 21 and over in second year of apprenticeship programme £5.93 p/h) and agreeing to release the employee for their college commitments at scheduled times.

Course Duration

The Dental Nursing Apprenticeship is completed in 1 year.

Apprenticeship Framework

There are a number of elements to each Apprenticeship and this is called the framework. Each Apprenticeship framework has four main strands:

- **Main Aim** – This is an assessed qualification, designed to assess and judge the application of skills and knowledge to a competent level.
- **Technical element** - This is a taught qualification, designed to develop the essential skills and knowledge needed to be competent at the job role.
- **Key Skills element** - Generally the application of essential communication and numeracy skills applied to the job role.
- **Employment responsibilities and rights** - What is needed to comply with essential employment legislation to ensure fairness, equality and the essential health and safety of the workplace.

Advanced Apprenticeship (Level 3) is relevant to:

An Apprenticeship in Dental Nursing is for anyone working as a dental nurse who wants to demonstrate their knowledge and skills. You'll need a good level of experience in your role.

Course Content

Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship in Dental Nursing is made up of 11 units. Candidates must complete all the units some of which include:

- Provide basic life support.
- Prepare and maintain environments, instruments, and equipment for clinical dental procedures.
- Contribute to the production of dental radiographs.
- Provide chair side support during the extraction of teeth and minor surgery
- Reflect on and develop your practice.
- Provide chair side support during the assessment of patients' oral health.

The candidates will also have to sit the VRQ examination which takes place on the first Friday in March, June and December. This is made up of multiple choice questions and short answers.

Progression

There are currently a number of progression routes open to dental nurses. They may move into:

- Dental Hygiene or Therapy
- Dental Practice Management
- Teaching Dental Nursing