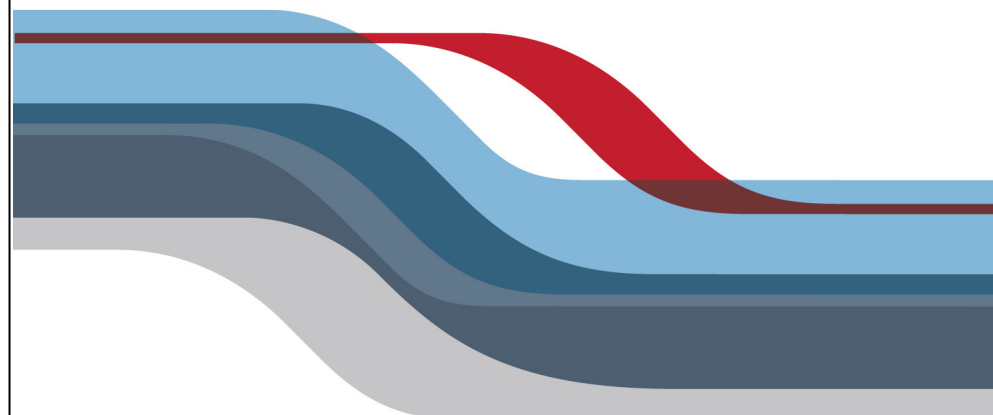


Dental Nursing Advanced Apprenticeship Level 3

Helping you achieve excellence



What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a training programme that combines real employment with a recognised qualification. 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.

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

To enter onto an Apprenticeship you must be employed for a minimum of 16 hours per week. During your Apprenticeship you will spend one day per week in the college, learning necessary job theory and developing key employment skills. A tutor will visit you in your workplace at agreed times to observe your practical work and put together the portfolio needed for your qualification.

The training is free to Apprentices. As a full time employee you will receive your normal salary. Your employer will agree to release you for your college commitments at the scheduled times.

If you are currently unemployed, we offer a vacancy matching service at: www.apprenticeships.org.uk. This website enables you to search for, and apply for current Apprenticeship vacancies.

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.

Course Duration

The Dental Nursing Apprenticeship is completed in 1 year.

Course Content

Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship in Dental Nursing is made up of 11 units. You 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

Your career doesn't have to stop at the Advanced Apprenticeship, if you want to go on to University you will find many institutes of Higher Education value your skills and knowledge and will happily offer you a place on a Foundation Degree or other higher level qualifications.

You can also carry on working, maybe get promoted, or apply for other jobs with your new qualification.