



A Day in the Life of a... DISTRICT NURSE

'A Day in the Life of' is a series written by experienced community nurses for student nurses to show what working in the community is like.

Personal details

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Job title: Community Staff Nurse / Specialist Practitioner Qualification Student - District Nurse

Location: Cheltenham

1. What's a typical day for you?

Every day is different working within the community setting. We offer a very wide range of services to our community – which means that we acquire a large range of skills to accommodate them. Unless I require any stock, I go out to my first visit from home after checking in with the shift lead. I then continue visits and keep in touch with my team throughout the day and call in to base if needed.

2. What has been your proudest moment in nursing so far?

My proudest moment to date, throughout my nursing career is achieving a place on the Specialist Practitioner Qualification course for District Nursing. I am currently just over half way through this course and have learnt so much – especially leadership skills, and have gained in confidence immeasurably.

3. What skills set would you expect a student nurse to bring to the role of community nursing?

More than any practical skills, which are of course useful, I really appreciate student nurses who come with an enthusiasm and willingness to learn. Life skills and the ability to communicate effectively are also vital.

4. What do you wish you'd known before you started working in the community?

Each and every patient is different, what is important to one patient may not be to another.

You will form closer bonds with your patients working with them in their own home environment than in any other care setting.

5. Any advice for aspiring community nurses?

Spend as much time as you possibly can working within a community nursing team. I was shocked when I started working within the community team at the sheer volume of work and the skills required of me.

Community nursing is, at times, extremely challenging but also highly rewarding.



Find out more:

www.qni.org.uk/students

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