

Frequently Asked Questions

Who do I need to contact/Speak to start applying for the course?

Firstly, it is important that you speak with your Practice Education Teams or Education facilitators at your workplace about the course. You must be employed to undertake the apprenticeship of the course.

You can also contact the programme leader, Ceri Baker, or Nursing Apprenticeship Tutor, Melissa Wilton, if you have any further questions. Please see the contacts page for further details.

How long is the course?

The FDSC Nursing Associate Apprenticeship is a 2 year course. Intakes for cohorts are in September and March each year.

Do I get paid on the course?

As part of the apprenticeship, your employer would continue to pay your usual or agreed salary whilst you studying.

Do I need to pay for the course?

No – as an apprenticeship your course is funded by your employer. They can apply for financial support from the government and local levy funds. Also as an apprenticeship you will receive a full time work wage .

What do I do about work experience/placements?

We want you to have a wide range of different clinical experiences to enhance your knowledge, skills and behaviours as a nursing associate. Your placements are organised centrally at the University in partnership with your employer/trust and are built into your programme pattern.

What are the working hours and days?

You will need to work full time hours with work. You will be allocated one University day per week over the 2 years. You will then need to work for 30hours per week following your usual work patterns.

Do I get annual leave?

Annual leave is planned into the Individual Learning Plan and timetable. You will know in advance when this is planned for and ideally should book your annual leave around this planning.

Do we have a uniform? If so, when do I wear it?

You will be provided a Student Nurse Associate uniform during the first few months of your course. You will then be expected to wear this both at work and placement throughout your two year course.

I've heard there is a Pin, What does this mean?

Once you have finished the apprenticeship course and passed your modules; you will be registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council. The NMC is the regulator for the nursing associate role in England and the title 'nursing associate' is protected in law in England. Therefore, you will be individually accountable for your own professional conduct and practice. This means you will need to meet the NMC standards of proficiency to register and continue to meet the standards and the code of practice as a condition of their registration