

# Nursing Associate (NA) role within Children's Nursing workforce

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Presenters:

- **Rebecca Daniels** – The Queen's Institute Community Nursing –with Sarah McLeod (ELFT)
- **Fiona Lynch** – Great Ormond Street Hospital
- **Kirsty Quibell and Kate Little**– Bluebell Hospice

## Chair

Jean Davies



[www.abpn-uk.com](http://www.abpn-uk.com)

The UK's professional rights based, trauma informed organisation for nurses working with children and young people



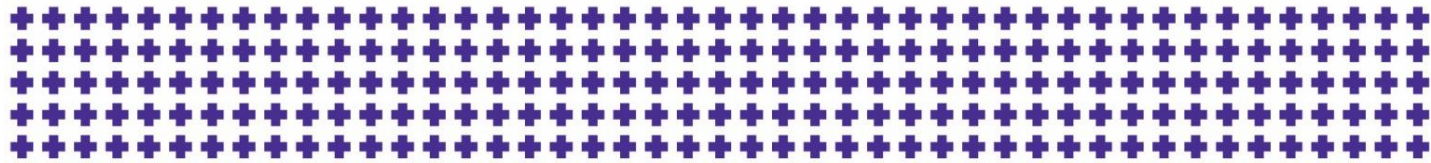
# Nursing Associate (NA) role within Children's Nursing workforce

The UK's professional rights based, trauma informed organisation for nurses working with children and young people

## Aims

- To understand the nursing associate role within children's nursing workforce.
- Gain insight from 3 clinical practice areas, Community, Hospital and Hospice, sharing the benefits and learning from the nursing associate role within their workforce.
- To consider career pathways into children's nursing, through apprenticeship and nursing associate role.
- 
- To consider local experience, knowledge and opportunities to support nursing associate training placements and future children's nursing workforce.





# Nursing Associate Role

What to expect from your  
nursing associate – 3 min  
video  
[https://youtu.be/0cVBHUV  
rf04](https://youtu.be/0cVBHUVrf04)

**Generic 18month training  
(England only)  
– covers all fields  
practice  
- Community and/or  
hospital-based  
placements**

Nursing  
Associate  
Register (NAR)  
opened 2019  
(NMC)

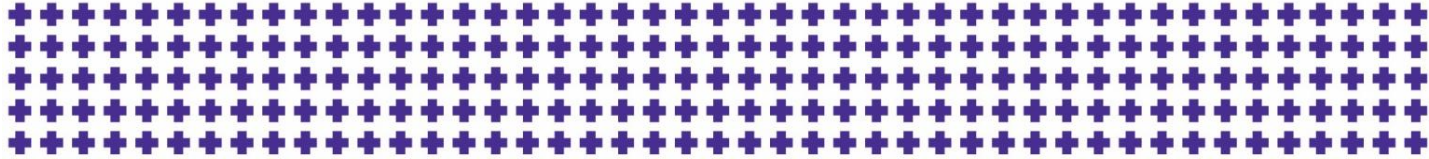
National Job Description  
created

Provide  
placements within  
Children's nursing

[Nursing associate roles in health and care | NHS Employers](#)

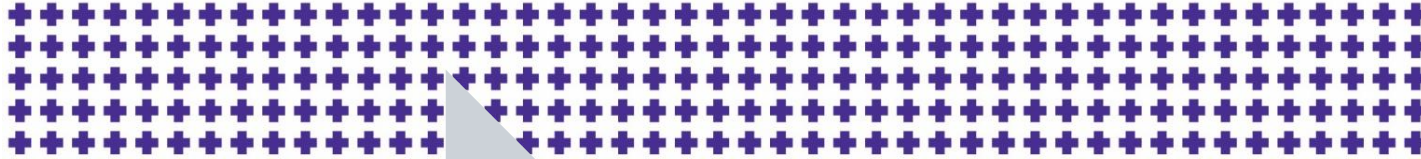
[Nursing Associates - The Nursing and Midwifery Council](#)

[standards-of-proficiency-for-nursing-associates.pdf](#)



# Differences between NA and RN

Nursing associate	Registered nurse
6 platforms	7 platforms
Be an accountable professional	Be an accountable professional
Promoting health and preventing ill health	Promoting health and preventing ill health
Provide and <b>monitor</b> care	Provide and <b>evaluate</b> care
Working in teams	<b>Leading and managing nursing care</b> and working in teams
Improving safety and quality of care	Improving safety and quality of care
<b>Contributing</b> to integrated care	<b>Coordinating</b> care
	<b>Assessing needs and planning care</b>



# Opportunities for Nursing Associate role in children's nursing and career pathways

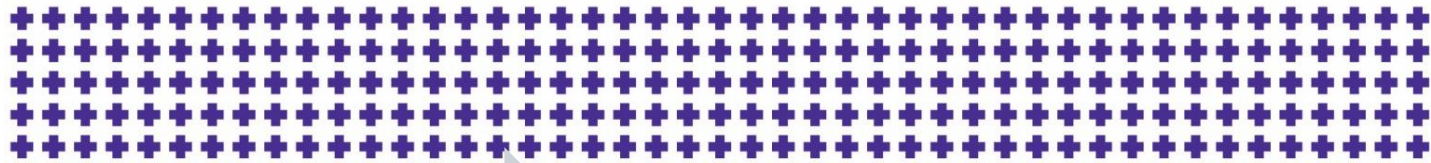
**HCA role – band 3  
18-24months**  
(consider to replace band 3 admin) – development of supplies, managing clinic bookings, weights/heights/ family support worker

**Nursing associate apprenticeship –2yrs training & 2yrs embed**  
Specialist school nursing, Community children's nursing, hospices, LTC  
CAMHS, hospital

**NA Nursing top up apprenticeship – RN Childrens – 18months**  
Rotation posts across NEL community inc LTC, hospices, CAMHS, hospital

Opportunities to "host" or offer CYP placements during training

Opportunities for training NA posts – using backfill CCN SPQ funds



# Children's Community Nursing experiences

## HCA role – band 3

Expressed interest in NA role  
– **CCN Host placement**

### **Challenge: only CYP**

Offered NA CYP placement  
within Trust NA programme

## Nursing associate apprenticeship –2yrs training & 2yrs embed

Specialist school nursing,  
Community children's  
nursing, Diana palliative care  
team

## NA Nursing top up apprenticeship – RN Childrens – 18months

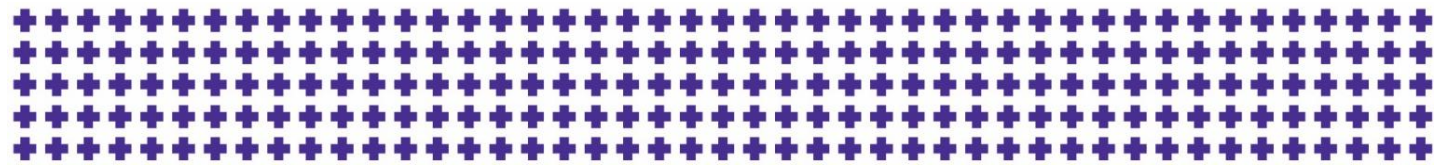
**Challenge 1<sup>st</sup> NA** – went on  
to RN programme as no CYP  
course available

Rotation posts across NEL  
community inc LTC,  
hospices, CAMHS, hospital

*We care*

*We respect*

*We are inclusive*



## Children's Community Nursing experiences

“In Conversation”, to share her own experiences as a nursing associate...

.....I would like to  
Welcome Sarah, it's  
wonderful to have you here  
with us, thank you for  
joining us.

*We care*

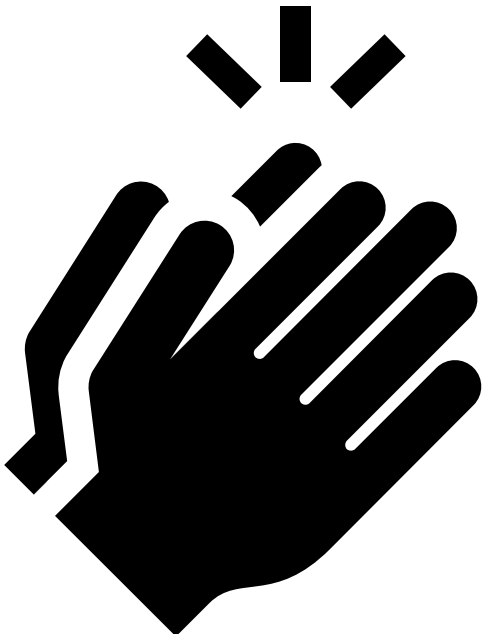
*We respect*

*We are inclusive*



# Children's Community Nursing experiences

Thank you for much for your time and sharing your valuable experience with everyone on the webinar today.



*We care*

*We respect*

*We are inclusive*



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