

Press Release

NHS Trust nominated for Employer of the Year award

Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust has been shortlisted for an Employer of the Year award for the support it provides apprentices.

The Trust, which runs the five community hospitals across the county and is the main provider of community and mental health care, has been nominated in recognition of their Workforce Transformation Team who have worked tirelessly to develop the apprenticeship scheme offered to those who want to gain invaluable experience and formal qualifications.

Since the Trust was formed in 2011, 330 apprentices have been supported and earlier this year the Trust signed the Talent for Care Partnership Pledge and has committed to double the number of apprenticeships delivered. The apprenticeship scheme has attracted new and emerging talents into the Trust who make an important contribution to the teams and services.

The Trust currently offer both Business Administration and Health and Social Care apprenticeships which help to springboard young people to start a career in the NHS and allow them to succeed and progress in their future careers.

Over the coming months there are plans to build on the successes of their existing scheme by increasing the number of entry level apprenticeships across the Trust and further expanding the schemes to offer opportunities across a wider range of occupational areas and at higher levels.

These opportunities for young people have been recognised and consequently the Trust has been shortlisted for the Employer of the Year award at the Health Education West Midlands Apprenticeship Awards 2016 which take place in February. The awards honour both apprentices and apprenticeship employers who demonstrate ongoing commitment, contribution and success as an individual or employer.

Jane McClements, Associate Director of Workforce, Strategic Planning and Development, said: *“I was really proud to find out we've been shortlisted for these awards which recognise the fantastic work done across our Trust over the last 12 months. Our apprenticeship schemes not only provides that all important first step in bringing talented young people from across Worcestershire into our teams but also gives a great opportunity for our existing staff to develop their own skills and progress within their careers.*

I'd like to thank all the apprentices for the hard work they've put in over the last twelve months and importantly the line managers and mentors who have helped them every step of the way. Not to

mention, Liz and Shelley from workforce transformation team who have really gone the extra mile over the last twelve months to make this such an outstanding scheme."

To find out how you can become an apprentice with the Trust, please visit:

<http://www.hacw.nhs.uk/work-for-us/apprenticeship-scheme/>

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