

# Helping to ensure an essential supply of AHPs

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Delivery of the ambitions of the NHS Long-Term Plan [6] requires a sustainable supply of trained and highly skilled AHPs.

HEE is working closely with the Office for Students (OfS) [7] to monitor the number of students training to become AHPs. We are developing a long-term strategic plan to stabilise and develop the professions, working with the AHP professional bodies and other partners.

## Initiatives include:

Showcasing AHP roles to young people via The WoW Show. The WoW Show [8], a fast-moving interactive online magazine, aims to give young people fresh perspectives on the world of work. Eight films, commissioned by HEE, focussing on AHPs careers have, so far, exposed over 100,000 students to AHP career opportunities.

**Watch all the videos from the WoW show. [9]**

## Vivid insight into AHP roles via virtual reality technology

HEE is using the latest immersive 360-degree virtual reality technology to give potential recruits a vivid insight into a day in the life of the AHP professions. These films podiatry, orthoptics, prosthetic and orthotics and therapeutic radiography professionals - join them as they meet, diagnose and treat their patients.

Watch the four AHP 360 VR videos here [10]

## Working in partnership with Health Careers

Our Health Careers [11] team ensure good quality information on all the allied health professions is available online. You can visit the Health Careers site to find out more about the AHP roles and how to become one. The team have also developed a booklet about AHP careers [12].

## **Routes to the allied health professions**

The increasing routes to a career as an AHP are explained in a careers resource developed in collaboration with Greater Manchester Combined Authority [13]. The resource contains information about each of the allied health professions and explores the increasing varied routes to become one.

## **I see the difference campaign**

HEE supports the Office for Students [14] I see the difference.co.uk [15] campaign. I See The Difference is all about drawing attention to allied health professionals: what they are, the amazing difference they make, and what makes them such fantastic careers.

## **Inspiring the Future**

Inspiring the Future [16] enables schools to connect with inspirational volunteers from the world of work quickly and easily, revolutionising the way in which young people get insights into exciting and unique careers and inspiring them to be ambitious. HEE is working with the AHP professional bodies to help encourage more AHPs to take part in the programme. Take a look at our webpage [17] for more information on this.

## **Careers Advisers**

To ensure careers advisors understand the breadth and depth of AHP roles, HEE is working with the Careers Development Institute [18] to help update and inform their members (careers advisors and professionals) about AHP professions.

## **Medic Portal**

AHP resources on the Medic Portal [19] give people interested in a career in medicine an awareness of other professions that might be of interest.

## **Careers for Parents website**

HEE is working with Careers Advice for Parents [20] to help parents, young people, school leavers and A-Level students find out about AHP careers.

## **University Technical College (UTC) Transmits**

HEE is working with University Technical Colleges to explore targeted careers events with health students. A careers event at Liverpool Life Science University Technical College (UTC) Transmits - brought Year 10 students together with AHPs and is being used as a model for similar events at other Higher Education Institutes. The event itself aimed to broaden young people's understanding of the different roles and career

options within the allied health professions.

## Widening routes to the professions

HEE is committed to widen supply routes to the AHP professions.

### Apprenticeship programme

Apprenticeships for both AHP support roles and pre-registration programmes offer new ways for people to enter the AHP workforce and widen participation.

HEE is supporting the development of apprenticeships and exploring how they can be used to optimal effect. This will improve access to, and growth of, the professions at a time when vital AHP skills are needed for NHS sustainability.

The apprenticeship programme includes the development of apprenticeships at support worker through to consultant level, across a range of AHP disciplines. You can find out more on the Skills for Health Apprenticeships website [21]

### ?Deep Dives? into the professions

Deep dives into the professions aid understanding of the complex issues that allied health professions face, and the contribution they make to multi-disciplinary teams. They also aim to give us an understanding of the current position of the profession and of employers' views on the current education and training challenges and opportunities

Deep dives have been undertaken with the podiatry, therapeutic radiography and the operating department practitioner professions and used to develop action plans.

### Supporting people to return to practice

HEE supports the Return to Practice [22] programme that aims to help Allied Health Professionals and Healthcare Clinical Scientists (HCS) re-join the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) register [23].

NHS employers are being encouraged to use Return to Practice in all AHP workforce strategies. New ways of supporting returnees are being explored and shared across the health and social care community to improve workforce capacity.

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**Source URL (modified on 09/10/2019 - 13:19):** <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/allied-health-professions/helping-ensure-essential-supply-ahps>

### Links

[1] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work>

[2] <https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/>

[3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>

[4] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/news-blogs-events>

[5] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/about>

[6] <https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/>

[7] <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/>

[8] <https://www.thewowshow.org/>

[9] <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLffqalyShWASq-4snzSwTltfOdhvGNIG>

[10] <https://hee-vr360.azurewebsites.net/>

[11] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals>

[12]

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Careers%20in%20the%20allied%20health%20profes%20April%202019.pdf>

[13] <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/>

[14] <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/funding-for-providers/health-education-funding/strategic-interventions-in-health-education-disciplines/>

[15] <https://www.iseethedifference.co.uk/>

[16] <https://www.inspiringthefuture.org/>

[17] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/health-ambassadors>

[18] <https://www.thecdi.net/Home>

[19] <https://www.themedicportal.com/application-guide/allied-health/>

[20] <https://www.careersadviceforparents.org/>

[21] <https://haso.skillsforhealth.org.uk/?s=ahp&type=site>

[22] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/return-practice-allied-health-professionals-healthcare-scientists>

[23] <https://www.hcpc-uk.org/>