

Nikki Bullett

Dietitian

Qualified: 2007

Stopped working in a clinical role: 2008

Returned to practice: 2018

Current role: Band 6 Dietitian, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

AHP/HCPC Return to Practice

Where are they now?

When Nikki decided to return to practice in 2018 she needed to do 60 days of updating which included a placement which she did with Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

“Getting my updating done and getting back on the register was a really major step for me. When the confirmation came through in March 2018, I started a Band 5 role at Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. I was working 3-days per week and it helped me maintain some balance with family life, whilst doing the job I loved.

In April 2021 I moved into a role with a community team in Chesterfield and in January 2022 I moved into a Band 6 role in Sheffield, moving up to 30 hours per week.

It is great to be back with the Trust where I started my return to practice journey. Moving forward, I would like to go full time in a couple of years and continue developing the community pathway.”

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Along with most other Trusts, we find it difficult to recruit, particularly around the Band 6 level. Supporting return to practice helps to get more people into the field and returners come with a variety of previous knowledge and life experiences, which can strengthen their skills.

Trusts can really help support return to practice by offering flexible programmes and recognising the work-life-balance and juggling! They can also offer experiences tailored to the needs and interests of the individual, along with career mentoring, supervision and training support.

It’s great to have Nikki return and it’s good to see that she has progressed with her skills, knowledge and experience so that she has been able to gain the Band 6 role with us.”

Sarah Thornton

Head of Dietetics, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

