Routes into nursing

**Earn and learn (salaried)**

Nigel is 36 and has GCSEs in maths and English. He wants to be a mental health nurse but has a family and needs a regular salary.

As he will be paid, he decides on the apprenticeship route.

While working in a hospital as a healthcare assistant (salary £15-£18k), Nigel learns new skills and completes the care certificate.

He decides to take an 18 month advanced apprenticeship in health and social care, giving him the qualifications to work as a senior healthcare support worker (salary £16-£19k).

He qualifies as a mental health nurse after a four-year degree apprenticeship in nursing. He is paid a salary while studying.

**Nursing associate**

Carmel is 18 and has five GCSEs A-C including maths and English. She works part-time in a school for students with special needs.

She wants to work with people with learning disabilities.

She completes a two-year training programme to become a nursing associate (salary £19k – £22k).

She decides to take the next step and become a nurse. She completes a shortened degree apprenticeship in nursing and paid a salary while studying.

**Undergraduate**

Shipa is 28 and has two children. She has three A-levels (chemistry, English and psychology).

She wants to be a children’s nurse and go to university.

Shipa qualifies as children’s nurse after taking a three year undergraduate nursing degree in children’s nursing.

Financial support while studying includes student loans for tuition fees and living expenses and some childcare costs.

**Postgraduate**

Kelly is 21 and has just completed a microbiology degree.

She wants to be an adult nurse and study for a postgraduate qualification.

Kelly qualifies as an adult nurse after taking an MSc in adult nursing. The programme’s only two years due to the relevance of her degree.

As she started her course in September 2017, she received a bursary for tuition fees and living expenses while studying.

*Bursaries for post-graduates are only likely to be available for students starting their courses in September 2017*