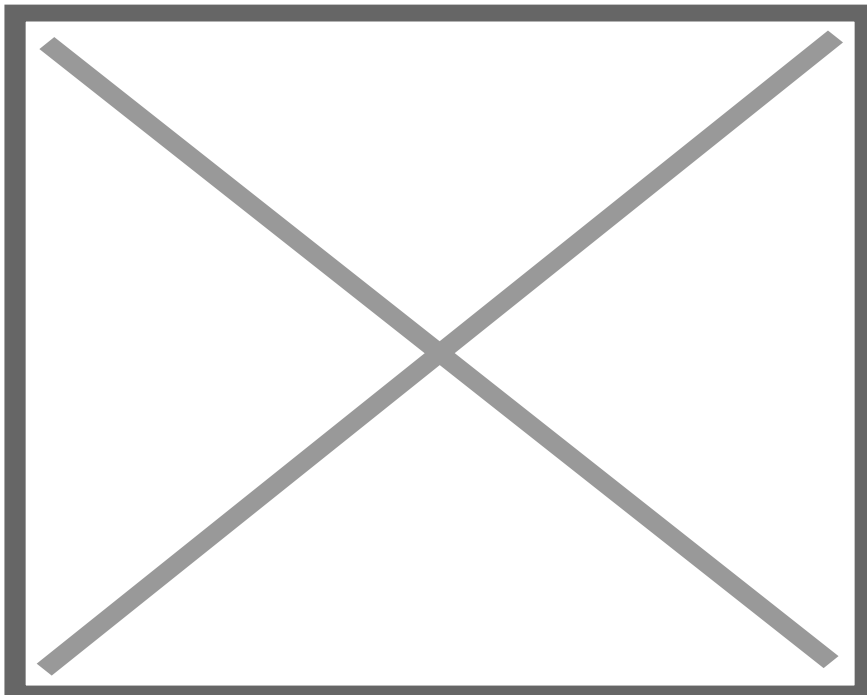# Types of nursing

Nursing gives you the opportunity to make a difference to people's lives on a daily basis. There are four key areas of nursing you can choose to specialise in, with each leading on to a wide range of rewarding roles with plenty of scope for progression.

- **Mental health nurse**

You'll deliver care and support to patients who are struggling with their mental health, helping them manage their condition with medication or relevant therapies.
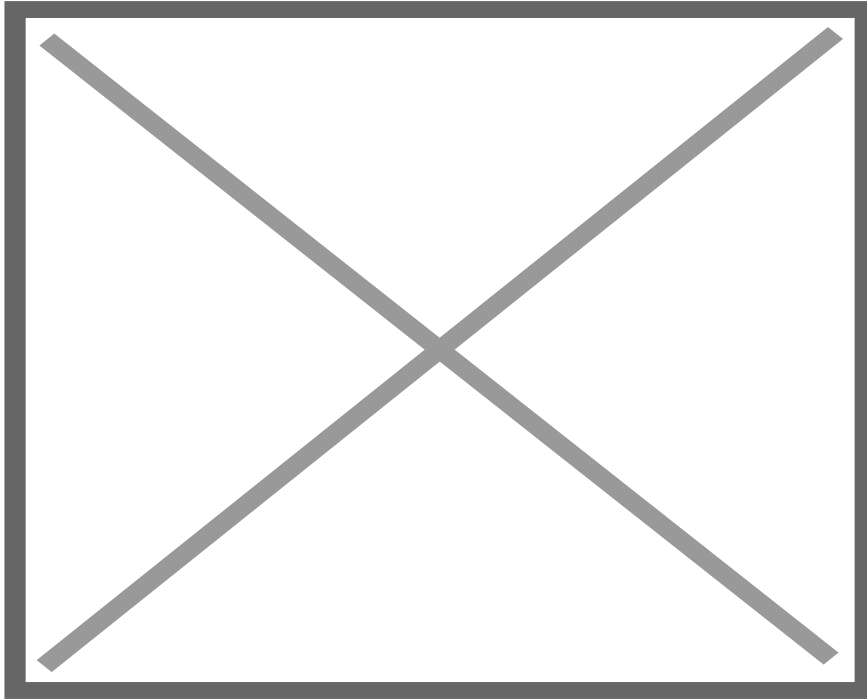
Becoming a mental health nurse [1]

- **Learning disability nurse**

You'll help people with learning disabilities to live an independent and fulfilling life, working alongside a multidisciplinary team as you support patients of all ages.
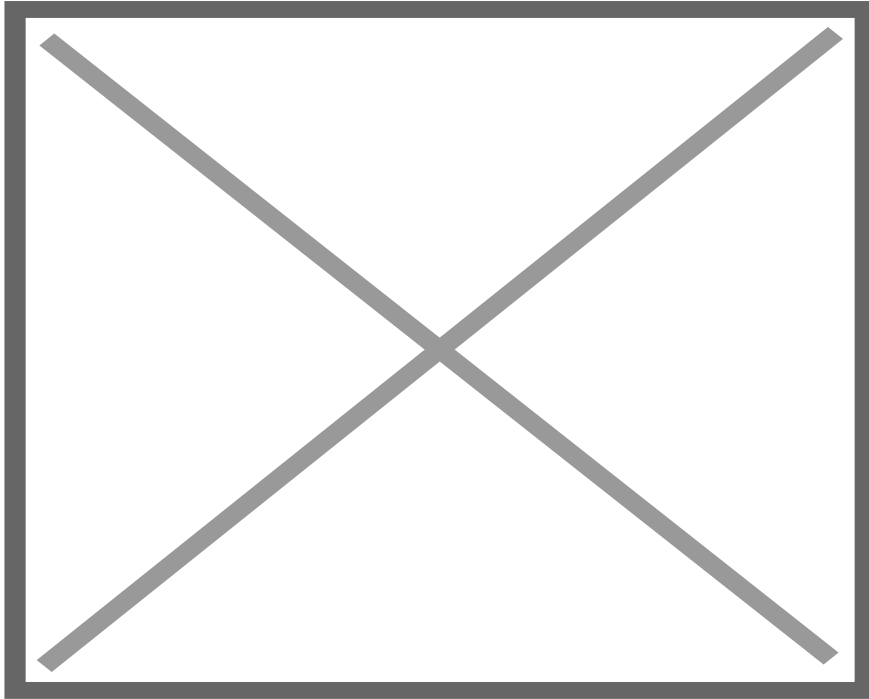
Becoming a learning disability nurse [2]

- **Adult nurse**

You'll look after adult patients of all ages who suffer from long or short-term physical health conditions, assessing their needs and planning their care as you nurses them back to health.
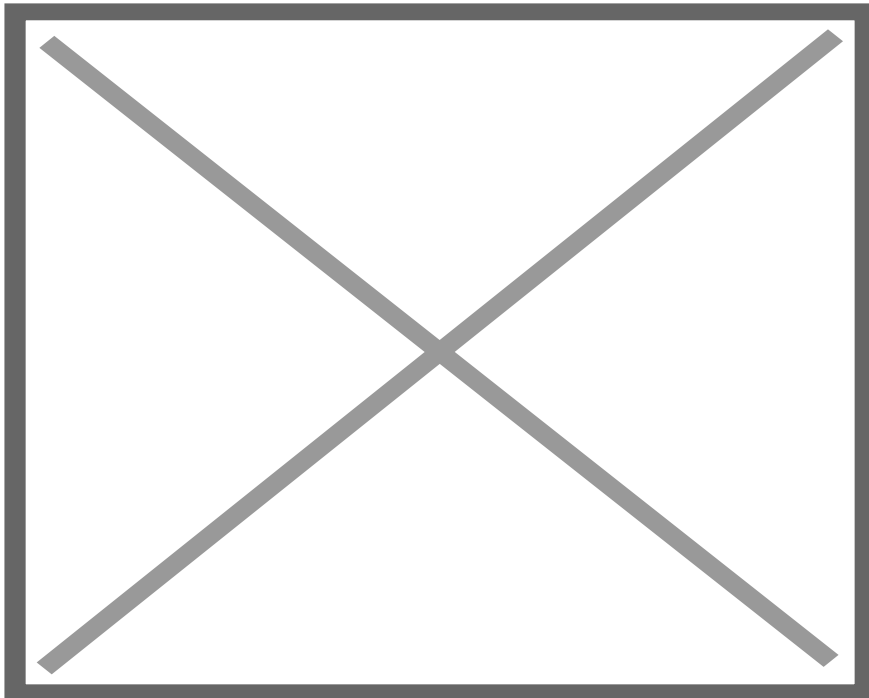
Becoming an adult nurse [3]

- **Children's nurse**

You'll work with children of all ages, from newborns to adolescents, providing treatment and care to them, and support to their parents or carers.
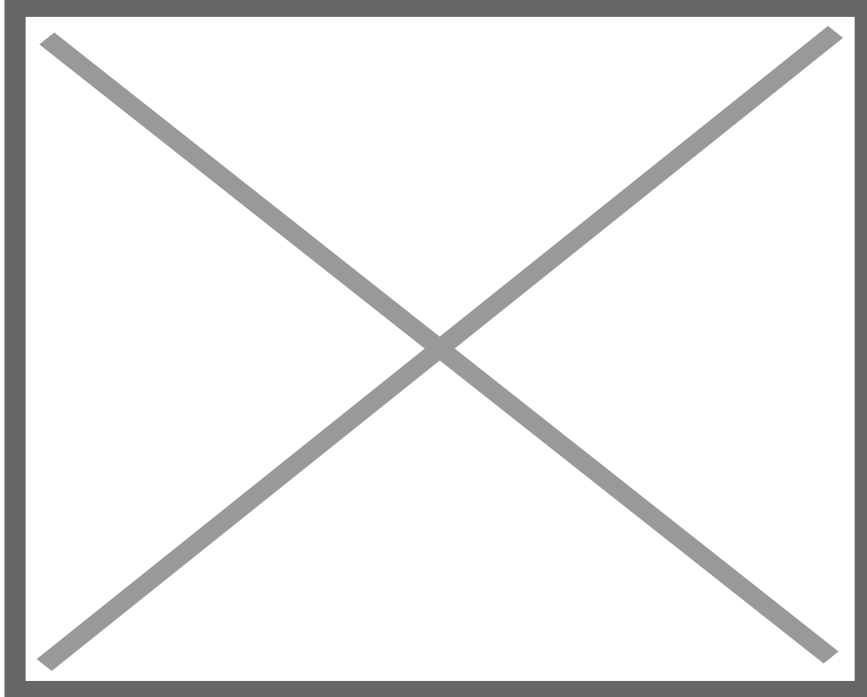
Becoming a children's nurse [4]

- **Nursing associate**

A new role within the nursing team, you'll get the chance to work across all four fields of nursing, as well as being a stepping stone to becoming a registered nurse.

Becoming a nursing associate [5]

Get started

Interested in nursing?

Sign up for our emails to learn more about the exciting range roles, career potential, benefits and more.

Sign up [6]
Planning a return to nursing?
Your knowledge and skills are invaluable to us, and we're here to make your return to healthcare as straightforward as possible.
Learn more [7]

Roles you can do after qualifying

With a world of opportunity to progress throughout your career, becoming a nurse is only the beginning.

- ## District nurse

  You'll provide complex care for patients and support for family members in people's homes and in residential care homes.

  [8]

- ## General practice nurse

  You'll work in GP surgeries and involved in most aspects of patient care such as taking blood samples and wound management.

  [9]

- ## Health visitor

  You'll work with families to give pre-school-age children the best possible start in life.

  [10]

- ## Neonatal nurse

  You'll care for newborn babies who are born premature or sick and may have problems such as respiratory difficulties or nutritional needs.

  [11]

- ## Prison nurse

  You'll provide similar care to GP nurses along with supporting people with mental health and substance misuse problems.

  [12]

- ## School nurse

  You'll promote healthy lifestyles and prevent illness with school age students.

  [13]

- ## Theatre nurse

  You'll work with patients of all ages in each phase of their operation.

  [14]

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https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/learning-disability-nurse [3]
https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/adult-nurse [4]
https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/childrens-nurse [5]
https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/nursing-associate [6]
https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/we-are-the-nhs/registration?career=nursing [7]
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