

Considering a career change?

Are you considering a career in the NHS? Why not take this opportunity to volunteer? Volunteers at North West Anglia Trust reflect our local communities, and range in age from 16 – 94, and are of all abilities. They all share a passion for helping people. We currently have opportunities in our hospitals for passionate people to volunteer to see whether making a difference in peoples lives, on a daily, is something they would like to do.

Aaron's Story

In August 2020, having been made redundant due to COVID, Aaron thought it would be a good idea to look at a career change (Aaron previously worked in the travel industry). Aaron describes himself as a 'people person' and initially starting volunteering as a Visitor Champion, welcoming visitors onto Ward A9. He made sure that visitors felt comfortable, (when visiting was allowed after the first wave), explained the restrictions in place and helped them to sign into our 'Track and Trace' scheme and then accompany them to their loved ones (in quite times Aaron would sit and talk to patients).

Aaron quickly found another weekday job so started volunteering at the hospital during weekends spending lots of time with patients. Right away staff noticed that Aaron went 'the extra mile'.

Aaron's time on the Ward confirmed to him that a career move into the NHS was the way he wanted to go! In December a vacancy for a Health Care Assistant became vacant on Ward A9 and Aaron jumped at the chance to apply. Staff at interview remembered Aaron's volunteer days and that he stood out as a person who went above and beyond. They felt he was a natural selection for a role that spends the best



part of their day ensuring patients are comfortable and safe. Aarons first day on Ward A9 was 5 January. Aaron said: "I'm so grateful for the opportunity, the other staff on the ward have been welcoming, nothing is ever too much. The training has been great and the pathways available to progress within the NHS are exciting."



Ana Alves A9 Ward Manager added: "Aaron is a positive light on the ward with the ability to not only lift patients spirits but also spread his infectious zest for life to other staff. Aaron has been a very good addition to our team during a tough year and I hope he enjoys being part of the team and enjoys the comradery that comes with working on A9."