Student Nurse placement in the South Wales Organ Donation team

Blood and Transplant

NHS Blood and Transplant Student nurses

Summer 2021

Initiative in NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) to work with Universities in England.

The aim of this was to showcase the work of NHSBT and how the organisation contributes to the wider NHS in all 4 nations.

Whilst also promoting NHSBT as somewhere future nurses will want to work and develop their nursing careers.

This placement also allowed us to have open discussions in our student nursing community about organ and blood donation.

As well as enabling networking and building of strong relationships between the Organ and Tissue Donation, Blood Donation and Therapeutic Apheresis teams in NHSBT.



South Wales Organ Donation Team – Student nurses

Summer/ Winter 2022/ 23

Collaborative Working with Cardiff University, University of South Wales and the National Student Nurse lead in NHSBT to set up a 3 or 4 week placement four times a year with the South Wales Organ Donation team
South Wales team were updated with new curriculum and proficiencies based on new NMC Standards.
First student placement- March 2023

Successes and positives for our students

- Able to experience working in a number of different NHS health boards and trusts that they otherwise would not visit as a student
- Within the Health boards and trusts they are able to experience interprofessional and collaborative working with both internal and external stakeholders.
- Experience of how to communicate in difficult and challenging situations..
- Advancing clinical knowledge particularly in care of critically unwell patients.
- Gain an understanding of the importance of debriefing and caring for our own and our colleagues health and well being.
- Developing an awareness of the work of NHSBT as an organisation
- Potential participation in our work with communities outside of the hospital setting to promote discussion around organ donation.
- Our students will also have the opportunity to spend time in the other critical care areas with the South Wales health boards (PICU, NICU, Theatres....)

Successes and positives for the South Wales team

- Building relationships with Cardiff university and University of South Wales
- Further teaching opportunities in both Universities
- Promotion of Organ Donation amongst or student community
- Ability to showcase the importance of organ donation and the work of NHSBT

Thank you to the South Wales Organ Donation team and our colleagues in both Cardiff University and University of South Wales as well as our Health board colleagues for helping to facilitate these placements

Joanne Davies – Specialist Nurse Organ Donation
South Wales Organ Donation team