Respiratory nursing

Respiratory nursing is part of the division of integrated medicine and our 24-bedded respiratory ward is located at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. We provide services to both chronic and acutely ill adult patients with a variety of respiratory problems. We also provide care to level 2 patients, offering specialist and intensive care to patients on the ward.

Nursing with us provides you with the ideal skills required to progress your career in intensive care nursing, palliative care or acute medicine. Along with core skills such as cannulation and phlebotomy, all our band 5 nurses will gain specialist skills in tracheotomy care, non-invasive ventilation, chest drain care, oxygen therapy, palliative care and case management. More experienced nurses will gain leadership skills as they take on aspects of ward management.

Our approach is multi-disciplinary team working and you will be part of an integrated team, working with the Trust’s community healthcare professionals. We have a team of doctors based on the ward at all times as well as our own allocated physiotherapists, occupational therapists and discharge co-ordinators. You will also work closely with the smoking cessation nurse, ITU outreach nurse and community respiratory team. Our nurses are an integral part of this wider team and contribute to planning and managing the care of patients.

Because of the nature of our patients we have a higher than usual ratio of trained nurses to patients at all times on our ward.

**How we support our nurses**

Nursing with us requires enthusiasm, initiative and a desire to learn. We are committed to the development of our staff and, in addition to the standard training provided by the Trust, all our nurses have access to extended skills training to ensure we provide safe and compassionate patient care at all times. You will be joining a friendly, supportive and welcoming ward. We hold regular team meetings to keep you up to date with corporate news and information, and give you the opportunity to ask questions and feedback your views. Staff news bulletins are always made available and we use our staff notice boards for important information. However, we know face to face communication with our teams is what works best and our ward managers operate an open-door policy at all times.