



Laura Dixon

District
Nursing Sister

What made you decide to come into nursing/midwifery?

I wanted to become a nurse as both my parents are nurses and they found it a very rewarding job. I've always found myself a very caring person and wanted to be able to care for people when they needed it most.

What does your role entail?

As district nursing sister I am responsible for managing a caseload of patients which numbers 250 at present with daily to annual needs. I am responsible for the management of the team and for junior staff members including nursing students. Completing off duty and allocation of calls. Assessing, planning, implementing and evaluating patient's care.

What does a typical day look like?

On a typical day I would come into the office and print of my patient visits which I am allocated for that day. I would ensure that all staff members have reported for duty and deal with any issues which many have arisen that morning with both patients and staff. I then carry out patient visits and document all care. I refer to relevant multi-disciplinary team members including: tissue viability nurse, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, hospice nurses, dietician and speech and language therapy if needed and liaise with the GP. I would allocate the patient visits for the next day for all the staff within the team.

What advice would you give someone coming into nursing?

My advice to anyone coming into nursing would be to be open to the various opportunities and career pathways nursing can provide you with. I have many friends in nursing and we have all chosen different career pathways within our career as there are a vast amount of specialities. It is a very rewarding job, through the rehabilitation of patients, wound healing and being able to support patients and their families in palliative and end of life care.