

# Job of The Week

## Mental Health Nurse

### Key Skills

- knowledge of Psychology
- active listening skills
- knowledge of medicine
- counselling skills active listening and a non-judgemental approach
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- sensitivity and understanding
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- the ability to work well with others
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

### Salary

£28,000 - £43,000

### Working hours

37-38 per week  
evenings / weekends /  
bank holidays / shifts

Aspire | Challenge | Achieve

# Mental Health Nurse

## University

You can do a degree in Mental Health Nursing approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Council. You might be able to study another area of nursing alongside mental health nursing.

You might be able to do a degree in mental health nursing and social work. You'll need to check that the course is recognised by the relevant professional bodies.

You might be able to join the second year of a nursing degree if you already have a degree in:

- a health-related subject
- Psychology
- life sciences
- social work

Full-time courses usually take 3 years.

## Top Tips

If you're already a registered nurse, you might be able to take an 18-month mental health nursing conversion course to become a mental health nurse.

You'll need to speak to your employer if you want to take this route.

## Apprenticeship

You might be able to apply for a Registered Nurse Level 6 Degree Apprenticeship, if you work in a healthcare setting like a hospital.

The degree apprenticeship takes around 4 years and is a mix of academic study and on-the-job training.

You'll need the support of your employer to do a degree apprenticeship.

### Entry requirements

You'll usually need 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 and A levels, or equivalent, for a degree apprenticeship.

## Post 16

It would also be a good idea to take one or more of the following subjects at A Level:

- Psychology
- Biology
- Sociology
- Chemistry
- Health and Social Care

## Career path and progression

With experience you could:

- specialise in an area of mental health like working with children, teenagers or women
- become a Nursing Sister, Ward Manager or Health Visitor
- move into management and become a Matron or Director of Nursing
- become an Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist or Nurse Consultant if you have a postgraduate qualification
- carry out research and training, become self employed or work overseas.

## Day to Day tasks:

- Working environment
- assess, support and build effective relationships with patients
- identify when people are at risk and respond to those in distress
- encourage patients to take part in therapies and social activities
- provide physical care if a patient needs it
- give medication, monitor its effect and update patient records

## Working conditions

You could work at a health centre, at an adult care home, in an NHS or private hospital, at a client's home, at a GP practice or in a prison.

Your working environment may be emotionally demanding.

You may need to wear a uniform.

# Labour Market Information

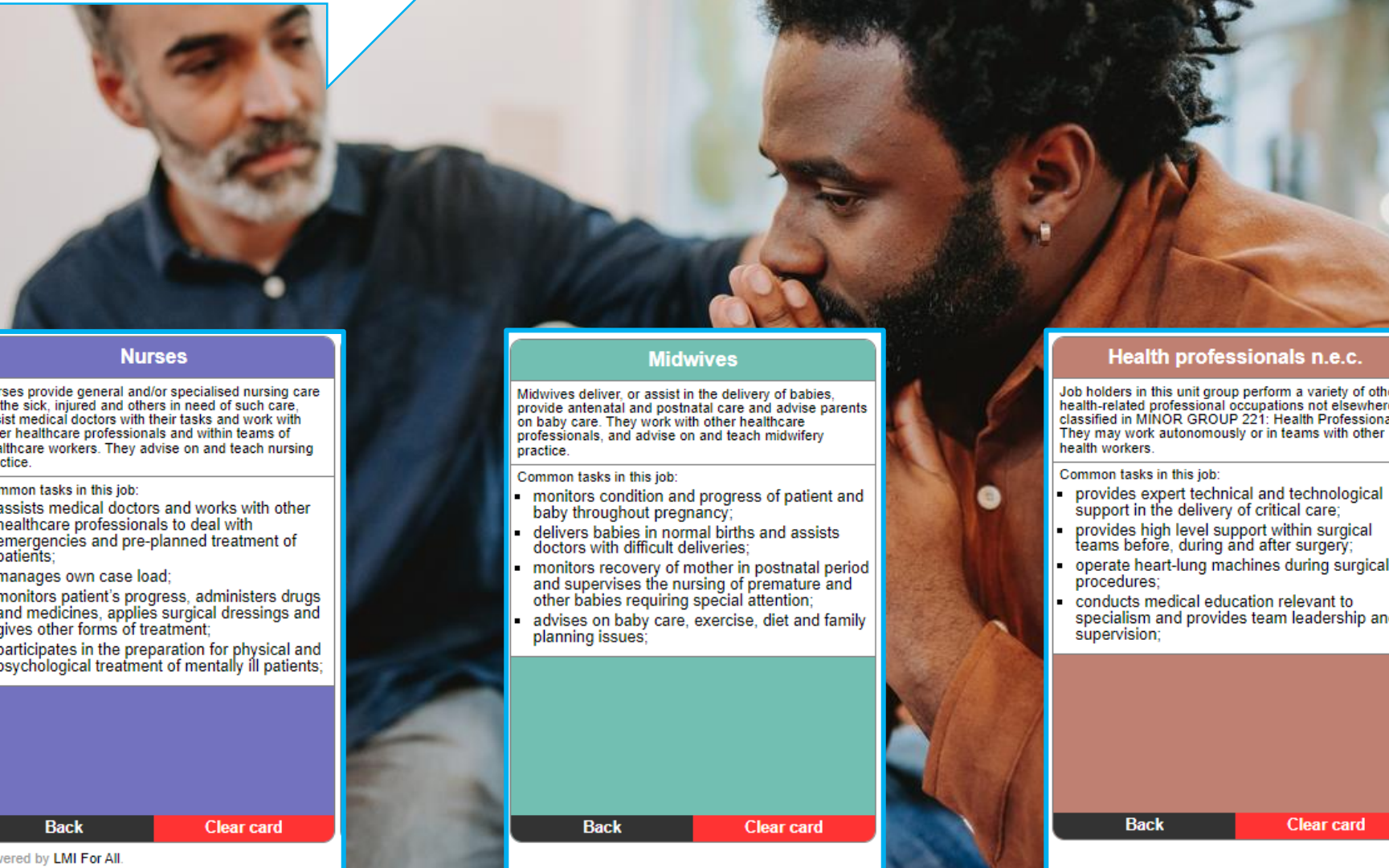
In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.  
Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

Nurses	
Weekly Pay <b>£780</b>	Annual Pay <b>£40,560</b>
Hours/Week <b>36h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£22</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>3.8%</b>	Replacement <b>51.3%</b>
<small>The workforce is projected to grow by 3.8% over the period to 2027, creating 30,400 jobs. In the same period, 51.3% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 407,500 job openings.</small>	
You might find this job in Health Residential care Social work Public admin. & defence Education	
<a href="#">More info</a>	<a href="#">Clear card</a>

Health professionals n.e.c.	
Weekly Pay <b>£780</b>	Annual Pay <b>£40,560</b>
Hours/Week <b>31h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£25</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>3.8%</b>	Replacement <b>51.3%</b>
<small>The workforce is projected to grow by 3.8% over the period to 2027, creating 2,300 jobs. In the same period, 51.3% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 31,100 job openings.</small>	
You might find this job in Services to buildings Social work Real estate Membership organisations Retail trade	
<a href="#">More info</a>	<a href="#">Clear card</a>

Midwives	
Weekly Pay <b>£770</b>	Annual Pay <b>£40,040</b>
Hours/Week <b>35h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£22</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>3.8%</b>	Replacement <b>51.3%</b>
<small>The workforce is projected to grow by 3.8% over the period to 2027, creating 2,200 jobs. In the same period, 51.3% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 30,200 job openings.</small>	
You might find this job in Health Public admin. & defence	
<a href="#">More info</a>	<a href="#">Clear card</a>

# Labour Market Information



## Nurses

Nurses provide general and/or specialised nursing care for the sick, injured and others in need of such care, assist medical doctors with their tasks and work with other healthcare professionals and within teams of healthcare workers. They advise on and teach nursing practice.

Common tasks in this job:

- assists medical doctors and works with other healthcare professionals to deal with emergencies and pre-planned treatment of patients;
- manages own case load;
- monitors patient's progress, administers drugs and medicines, applies surgical dressings and gives other forms of treatment;
- participates in the preparation for physical and psychological treatment of mentally ill patients;

Back

Clear card

## Midwives

Midwives deliver, or assist in the delivery of babies, provide antenatal and postnatal care and advise parents on baby care. They work with other healthcare professionals, and advise on and teach midwifery practice.

Common tasks in this job:

- monitors condition and progress of patient and baby throughout pregnancy;
- delivers babies in normal births and assists doctors with difficult deliveries;
- monitors recovery of mother in postnatal period and supervises the nursing of premature and other babies requiring special attention;
- advises on baby care, exercise, diet and family planning issues;

Back

Clear card

## Health professionals n.e.c.

Job holders in this unit group perform a variety of other health-related professional occupations not elsewhere classified in MINOR GROUP 221: Health Professionals. They may work autonomously or in teams with other health workers.

Common tasks in this job:

- provides expert technical and technological support in the delivery of critical care;
- provides high level support within surgical teams before, during and after surgery;
- operate heart-lung machines during surgical procedures;
- conducts medical education relevant to specialism and provides team leadership and supervision;

Back

Clear card

Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

What Is It Like To Be A Mental Health Nurse?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34DPAzumKFM&pp=ygUWTUVoVEFMiEhFQxUSCBOVVJTRSBVSw%3D%3D>

Study a Mental Health Nursing



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1SEDzFdSJM&pp=ygUWTUVoVEFMiEhFQxUSCBOVVJTRSBVSw%3D%3D>

Advanced Practice in Mental Health - Matthew's Story



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-1LzV\\_pOE4&pp=ygUldHJhaW5naW5nIHrVlGJIIEgTUVOVEFMiEhFQxUSCBOVVJTRQ%3D%3D](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-1LzV_pOE4&pp=ygUldHJhaW5naW5nIHrVlGJIIEgTUVOVEFMiEhFQxUSCBOVVJTRQ%3D%3D)

Careers in CAMHS



Careers in CAMHS - Community CAMHS Nurse  
(youtube.com)

### Useful Websites

[Mental Health Nurse \(mod.uk\)](https://www.mod.uk)

[Mental health nurse | Health Careers](https://www.healthcareers.gov.uk)

[Mental health nurse | Explore careers | National Careers Service](https://www.careers.nhs.uk)

[About our Sixth Form – Bourne Academy](https://www.bourneacademy.co.uk)

[Mental health nurse | Undergraduate | UCAS](https://www.ucas.com)