

Job of The Week

Radiographer

Key Skills

- knowledge of medicine and medical procedures
- sensitivity and understanding
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- knowledge of biology
- the ability to think clearly using logic and reasoning
- active listening skills
- concentration skills
- thinking and reasoning skills
- to be confident using a PC and the main software packages

Salary
£25,654 - £45,838

Working hours
35 - 40
May include some weekends

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Radiographer

University:

You'll need to do an approved degree or postgraduate qualification, which allows you to register with the Health and Care Professions Council. You'll need registration to work. If you're a health professional or a graduate with a relevant first degree, you may be able to take a fast-track postgraduate qualification over 2 years.

You can also train as a Radiographer in the Armed Forces.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English, Maths and Science; 3 A levels, or equivalent, including at least 1 Science; a degree in a relevant subject for postgraduate study

Tips

When applying for degree courses and apprenticeships, you'll be expected to show an understanding of how NHS values apply in your work. Before you apply for a course, you'll need to think about whether you want to work in diagnostic radiography or therapeutic radiography. Visiting a radiography department at your local hospital may help you decide.



Apprenticeship

You may be able to do a diagnostic or therapeutic radiographer degree apprenticeship. This typically takes 36 months to complete as a mix of learning in the workplace and academic study at an approved university.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship

Career path and progression

With experience, you could become a sonography specialist, radiography team leader or consultant practitioner.

You could also take further qualifications to specialise in:

- Counselling and palliative care
- The use of certain techniques or equipment
- Working with specific groups of patients
- Research and teaching

Day to Day tasks

Your duties could include:

As a Diagnostic Radiographer:

- produce and interpret images of the body to identify and diagnose injury and disease
- screen for abnormalities
- take part in surgical procedures like biopsies (examining tissues to find the cause of disease)

As a Therapeutic Radiographer:

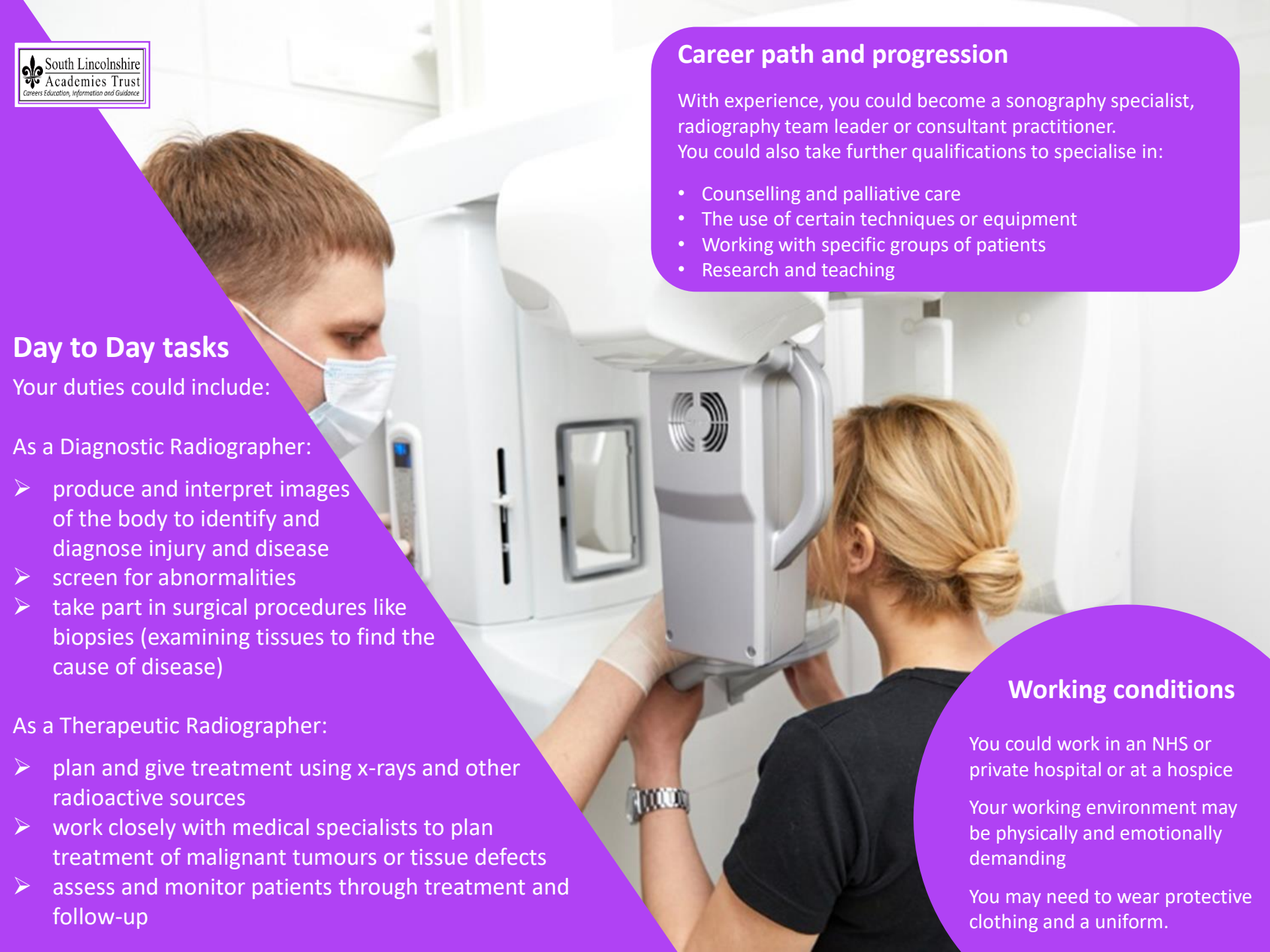
- plan and give treatment using x-rays and other radioactive sources
- work closely with medical specialists to plan treatment of malignant tumours or tissue defects
- assess and monitor patients through treatment and follow-up

Working conditions

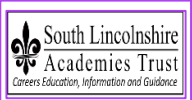
You could work in an NHS or private hospital or at a hospice

Your working environment may be physically and emotionally demanding

You may need to wear protective clothing and 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'.

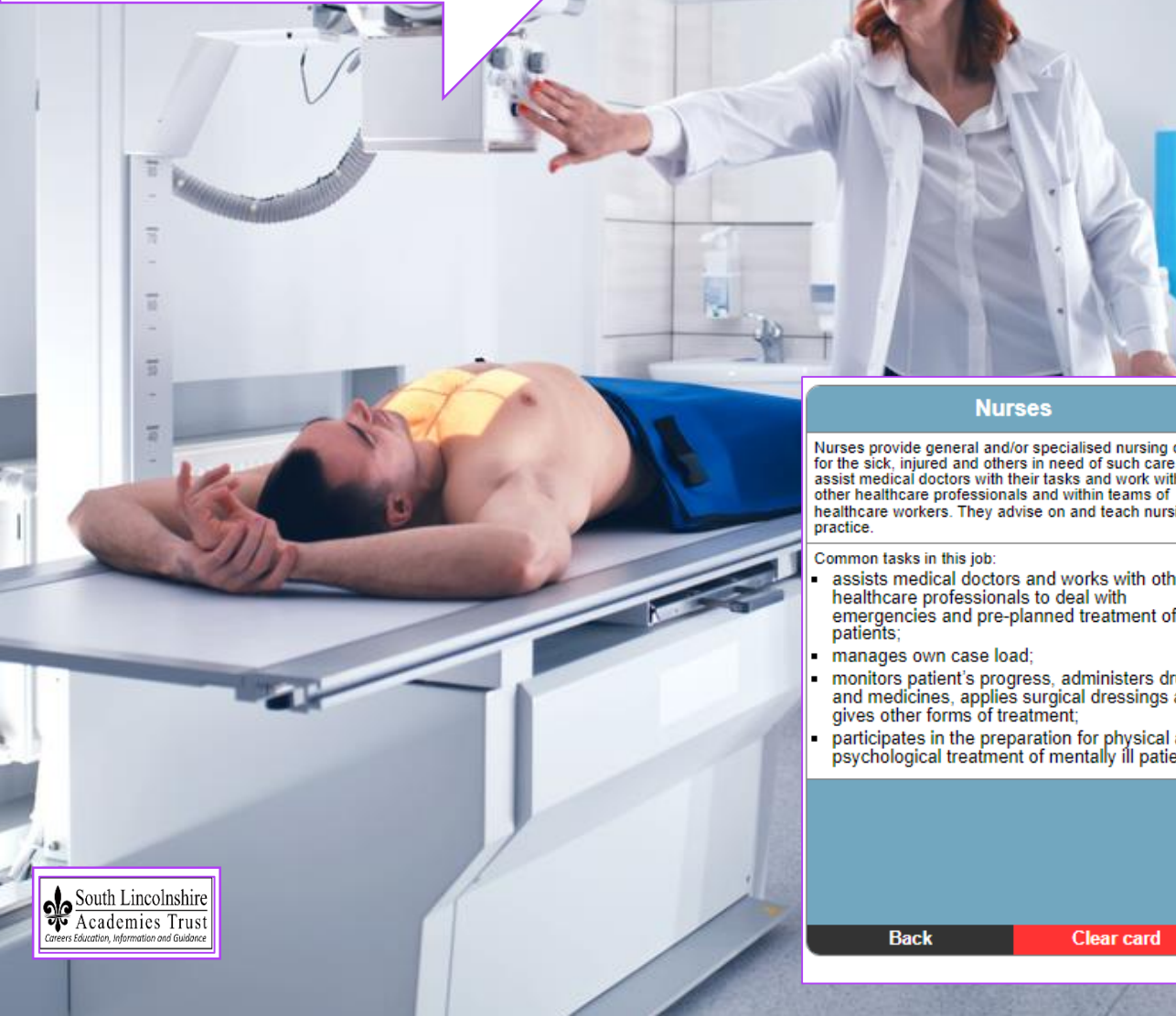
Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

Medical radiographers	
Weekly Pay £850	Annual Pay £44,200
Hours/Week 37h	Hourly Pay £23
Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 6.9%	Replacement 52.8%
<p>The workforce is projected to grow by 6.9% over the period to 2027, creating 2,200 jobs. In the same period, 52.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 16,700 job openings.</p>	
<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Public admin. & defence Residential care 	
More info	Clear card

Nurses	
Weekly Pay £780	Annual Pay £40,560
Hours/Week 36h	Hourly Pay £22
Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 6.9%	Replacement 52.8%
<p>The workforce is projected to grow by 6.9% over the period to 2027, creating 53,400 jobs. In the same period, 52.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 407,500 job openings.</p>	
<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Residential care Social work Public admin. & defence Education 	
More info	Clear card

Medical practitioners	
Weekly Pay £1,440	Annual Pay £74,880
Hours/Week 34h	Hourly Pay £42
Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 6.9%	Replacement 52.8%
<p>The workforce is projected to grow by 6.9% over the period to 2027, creating 21,300 jobs. In the same period, 52.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 162,500 job openings.</p>	
<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Public admin. & defence Membership organisations Retail trade Education 	
More info	Clear card

Labour Market Information



Medical radiographers

Medical (diagnostic) radiographers operate x-ray machines, ultrasound, magnetic resonance imaging and other imaging devices for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes, assist in the diagnosis of injuries and diseases and are involved in intervention procedures such as the removal of kidney stones. They operate under the supervision of senior staff. Therapeutic radiographers specialise in the planning and administration of radiotherapy treatment for patients with cancer.

Common tasks in this job:

- uses a range of imaging devices for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes;
- assesses patients and interprets clinical requirements to determine appropriate radiographic treatments;
- verifies identity of patient and ensures that necessary preparations have been made for the examination/treatment;
- decides length and intensity of exposure or strength of dosage of isotope;

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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;

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Medical practitioners

Medical practitioners diagnose mental and physical injuries, disorders and diseases, prescribe and give treatment, recommend preventative action, and conduct medical education and research activities. They may specialise in particular areas of modern medicine or work in general practice and, where necessary, refer the patient to a specialist.

Common tasks in this job:

- examines patient, arranges for any necessary x-rays or other tests and interprets results;
- diagnoses condition and prescribes and/or administers appropriate treatment/surgery;
- administers medical tests and inoculations against communicable diseases;
- supervises patient's progress and advises on diet, exercise and other preventative action;

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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...

Useful Websites

[Radiographer | Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

[Diagnostic radiographer: CK | Prospects.ac.uk](#)

[How To Become A Radiographer For Students | Success At School](#)

[Radiography and medical technology \(ucas.com\)](#)

[Search – UCAS](#)

[Radiographers | \(hcpc-uk.org\)](#)

[Information on being a diagnostic radiographer - Degrees and Courses - NHS Careers \(healthcareers.nhs.uk\)](#)

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

NHS Therapeutic Radiographer



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pDBH2OYHvMc>

Diagnostic Radiographer Leeds University Placement



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IA4Bpn9vXF8>

Therapeutic V's Diagnostic Radiography



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zkbz8kpOLHI>

British Army – working as Radiographer



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7wrSuH7Rdhw>

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