

Lesson plan

Broadening careers understanding: Careers in the NHS

40
Minutes

14-18
Age

KS3:L12 | KS4:L4
PSHE

Learning outcomes

By the end of the lesson students will:

- Describe the range of careers in the NHS
- Understand that job families contain many jobs which could suit an individual's skills and interests

Summary of the lesson

Students are introduced to the NHS through a short video. Using group work, students are encouraged to consider the range of job roles in the NHS. This discussion leads to grouping the roles into job families, and helping students see the similarities between the roles in the same job families.

Note: in preparation for this session we recommend the teacher/adviser views the **Explore roles** section of the NHS careers website here:

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles>

The full range of job families within the NHS, and jobs within each job family, are listed.

Classroom requirements

- SMART board
- Paper and pen
- Computer/tablet access for extension activity

Suitable for students aged:

14 - 18

Time required to complete tasks

40 mins max

Gatsby Benchmarks covered



Area of learning in CDI Careers Framework

Explore possibilities

Learning opportunity in Programme of Study for PSHE Education

KS3:L12 | KS4:L4

Skills Builder Universal Framework



Lesson activities

1. Introduction to the NHS

Show the video: Job titles. This video introduces students to the idea that there are lots of different job roles in the NHS, not just well-known healthcare roles.

Use the following questions in preparation for the group task:

- How many people work for the NHS?
 - (Answer: over 1.3 million making it the largest employer in Europe and one of the largest in the world)
- How many different careers are on offer in the NHS?
 - (Answer: over 350)
- What types of job roles are there in the NHS?
 - (If students need prompts include words such as doctors, scientists, therapists, support staff, to begin to get them thinking about the range of job families involved)

Time
required

10
Min

Resources

Access the video here:

<https://www.stepintotenhs.nhs.uk/careers/videos/job-titles>

2. Group task

Get students into groups of four/five and ask them to write down as many job roles they can think of that are in the NHS - give them 5 minutes to do this. Explain they will get a point for any job they have written down which no other group has thought of.

Invite groups, in turn, to come up to the board to write down jobs they have which fall in these job families:

- Doctors
- Nursing
- Ambulance service team
- Allied health professionals (explain this includes most of the therapist roles)
- Other

How many jobs did each group write down in total? How many jobs did each group write down that no other group thought of?

Show the class the **Explore roles** section of the NHS careers website to find out how many jobs they missed.

Time
required

15
Min

Resources

Paper and pen

SMART board



2. Group task (continued)

In particular, you could highlight job families that students may be less familiar with such as:

- Health informatics
- Healthcare science
- Management
- Public health
- Wider healthcare team

Resources

Visit:

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles>

3. Job families

Question the whole class about what they think a couple of the jobs on the board might entail. Discuss day to day roles, and the skills and interests needed to do the roles.

In their groups, ask them to choose one of the job families on the board and write down the skills needed for each job listed within that family. Show a list of skills on the board, useful resource is [here](#) (list of 28 soft skills is half way down the page). Give them 5 minutes to do this.

Ask for feedback from each group on the family they chose. Write the skills they mention on the board next to the jobs in the relevant family. On asking every group, duplicate skills should emerge within each family.

Ask questions to get the whole class to realise that within each family will be multiple roles that require similar skills and interests and could, therefore, be interesting to the same person. Questions could include:

Were there any skills which you found in more than one job?

- If someone is interested in x job, do you think that y job might also seem interesting to them? (x and y should be jobs from the same family)

Ask these questions about two or three families.

- Ask summarising question:
- Based on an individual's skills, different jobs within a job family, could be of interest to them. Does this have any implications for you and your career search/decision?

Time
required

15
Min

Resources

Paper and pen

Visit:

<https://zety.com/blog/hard-skills-soft-skills>
for list of skills



Differentiation



For groups who finish the job families task quickly, ask them to go through the different jobs within the job family they have chosen, and discuss what other types of organisations, projects and/or sectors they could do these jobs in. The outside segments on the world of work wheel on the last page of this lesson plan could support this work.

World of Work Wheel (available below and on the **About Me > Interests** on their Morrisby account).

Extension activities



(this requires computer/tablet access)

Students think about a job they are interested in or have considered in the past. Would their chosen job be possible in the NHS? If it is or is not, where else could they do this role?

They can research, using their Morrisby account, to find the alternative sectors or projects they could work in. **Hint:** if they use the external resources in the careers profile for the job they have chosen, they can conduct further research about the job, which should give them information about where else they could work.

For students without a Morrisby account, they could use a resource such as the [National Careers Service](#) (for England), [Careers Wales](#), [My World of Work](#) (for Scotland) and [NI Direct](#) (for Northern Ireland), or [NHS careers](#) website.



World of Work Chart
(property of Morrisby Ltd)

Your personalised World of Work
The size of each segment reflects your level of interest

