

Dental nurses support dentists with various aspects of patient care. This includes ensuring that the patient is comfortable and reassured, and helping the dentist by preparing materials and instruments, as required. Dental nurses may also assist in such tasks as recording patient information, tidying and sterilising the surgery and instruments and assisting at reception during busy times.

This apprenticeship is for anyone who is looking for (or is already working in) a career as a dental nurse. The ideal candidate would be calm and positive, a team player, able to relate to all people and have a warm personality and an interest in oral health and science.

What qualifications can I study for?

Through a Hoople apprenticeship, you can study for a City and Guilds Level 3 in Dental Nursing. This will enable you to register with the General Dental Council—the regulatory body for dentistry. You will also receive help with your functional skills (maths and English) if you don't have good GCSEs in these areas.

What job opportunities are there for people who have these skills?

Through training and experience, dental nurses may be able to progress to more senior roles, such as team leader or practice manager. Further training may make it possible for you to advance to the role of a dental therapist or dental hygienist.

Although apprenticeships do not provide you with a guarantee of employment when they end, many employers do decide to retain their apprentices. Whatever happens, apprenticeships will open the door to many career opportunities.

