

## Karen's story

"I didn't realise there were so many different ways into nursing."

Karen lives in Rotherham and at home she cares for her disabled mum.

Being a carer helped her decide that she wants to work in the health care sector, but she was unsure exactly what to do.

Karen decided to do some research. By speaking to her school's career co-ordinator, she looked at the different options and decided that nursing would really suit her skills and personality.

"I didn't realise there were so many different ways into nursing. At school I started with a vocational GCSE in Health and Social Care which gave me a great taster of the healthcare industry. I did work experience at a care home and learned what it's really like! I'm glad that the course is quite academic, but I also like the fact that it is mainly coursework with one exam module.

"I'm staying on in sixth form to do my A levels including an A level in Health and Social Care, and I hope to do a degree in nursing at university. It'll be quite hard but they say I'll start work on over £17,000 for doing what I enjoy – and I can work my way up!"



## Health and Social Care

As well as the National Health Service (NHS) there are many private companies that provide a range of jobs in health and social care. But within the NHS alone, there are over 70 different professions. There's not much you can do outside the NHS that you can't do inside it!

### The careers

There are roles for technicians, managers, care assistants, paramedics, doctors, therapists and nurses. Whichever career you choose, you know you'll be part of the thousands of teams of people helping and caring for others.

### Did you know?

- Approximately 330,000 people are employed by the NHS and the private care sector in Yorkshire and the Humber – within South Yorkshire it accounts for 14% of the entire workforce.
- The health sector is forecast to grow by 10,000 by 2010.
- There are 600 residential and home care providers in South Yorkshire employing around 30,000 people, with another 7,000 jobs expected by 2010.
- The health and social care sector will be a major recruiter between 2006 and 2010.
- With the Government increasing the number of childcare places available in the UK, there will be more childcare jobs.

To find out more about the Health and Social Care sector, visit:

[www.voced.co.uk/jobsinsy](http://www.voced.co.uk/jobsinsy)