

INDUSTRY: HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE  
PROGRAMME: A DAY IN THE LIFE  
ACTIVITY: CAREER INSIGHT  
BUSINESS: NHS  
SCHOOL: ALL

## 'A DAY IN THE LIFE' INSIGHT INTO HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE CAREERS

Following a successful event last year, NHS Orkney in partnership with Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Orkney, held a 'Day in the Life' event at The Balfour on Friday 15 November. These events help young people learn more about the range of health and social care careers that are available with NHS Orkney. The 'Day in the Life' event was open to interested pupils from S3-S6 at secondary schools throughout Orkney.

The purpose of the 'Day in the Life' was to help pupils who are interested in a career in health and social care gain a better understanding of what is involved in various roles. Pupils were able to speak to clinicians, learn more about their day-to-day roles and also try out some practical aspects of different professions.

Forty-six pupils attended the event at The Balfour and were able to speak to 16 different professions, including Dietetics, Podiatry, Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Radiography and Nursing. Rona Marcus, Practice Education Lead, NHS Orkney said: "Day in the life events are increasingly popular all over Scotland, due to their value in attracting young people to different health careers in the NHS. When facing national shortages of various health care professions and difficulties recruiting to rural areas, it is vital we promote the work of health care staff in local areas."

*"Speech and Language therapy is a diverse and growing field. As a Speech and Language Therapist I'm proud of what we can do for our patients and I'm excited to see how our field progresses over the next 20 -30 years as new and intelligent young minds like the ones we saw today join the profession."*



Skyla Nicholson, who is in fourth year at Kirkwall Grammar School, is still undecided on her career. She said:

“ The event showed me the wide range of careers available within the NHS and that there are lots of different locations within healthcare, as well as the hospital. ”

Fifth year pupil at Kirkwall Grammar School, Owen Griffith, said:

“ I knew I wanted to be a Dietitian, however now that I know more about what the role entails, I am more confident that this is the career for me. ”

*"This is the second year we have co-hosted this event with NHS Orkney and we were delighted to welcome so many interested pupils again this year. As well as being able to speak to clinicians, pupils were able to find out about the different learning pathways into these careers. This helps younger pupils consider their subject choices as they progress through school, while older pupils can plan their next steps. We also provided information about the Reach Programme which provides information, advice and guidance to pupils in S4-6 on applying for professional degrees like Medicine and Dentistry. The University of Aberdeen provide this service for pupils in Orkney and anyone interested can learn more, or register for the programme, on the University's website."*

**RACHEL SCARTH, PROJECT MANAGER, DYW ORKNEY**

To contact DYW Orkney please email: [ORKNEYDYW@UHI.AC.UK](mailto:ORKNEYDYW@UHI.AC.UK)

You can also visit our website at: [WWW.DYWORKNEY.CO.UK](http://WWW.DYWORKNEY.CO.UK)

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