

Orthoptic Careers Case Study

Meet Jenny

My name is Jenny McAlister. I am a Specialist Orthoptist employed by University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust. I graduated from the University of Liverpool in July 2022 and joined the Orthoptic workforce shortly after in August 2022.

I am currently working towards my trust preceptorship which has allowed me to gain confidence through support mechanisms in place to make my transition from student to autonomous practitioner as smooth as possible. This includes having a mentor/preceptor that I can take any concerns and questions to. So far, my preceptorship has covered career developing topics such as leadership and CPD documentation, but

also topics to address wellbeing such as transition shock awareness. I have found this beneficial as it has allowed me to become more confident in my new responsibilities and made the experience of joining the Orthoptic workforce less daunting. From being a student, I have already gained new skills to widen my scope of practice such as completing my Biometry training course.

I have a varied timetable during the week allowing me to gain valuable experience with different types of patients and clinical cases. I am involved in community visits to schools for vision screening, and special schools to perform Orthoptic assessments, both of which has contributed to developing my communication, organisation and leadership skills. Working in a large department has allowed me to develop the ability to work and contribute to a team, gain support and give support to others when required. It has also allowed me to continue learning through discussion of topics and interesting cases.

Contact careers@orthoptics.org.uk
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