

Carley Smith

Currently working as... a Staff Nurse in ED

Joined the RUH as... a Staff Nurse

How long have you been at the RUH? 3 months

Where do you live? Bristol

Where are you from originally? Bristol

“Having worked at the RUH before as a staff nurse on Forrester Brown, I always knew I wanted to return to the hospital. I loved the close-knit feel of the place. I undertook my nurse training and started out working in Oncology in Bristol. It was always my ambition to work in ED – but I wanted to gain some experience first. I knew how important it would be to feel confident in all the basic skills before applying to work in ED.

“I’m now three months in, and ED is everything I expected it to be – and then some! The pace is incredible, but I really enjoy working here. You have to learn how to prioritise, but you quickly develop an instinct for knowing what to attend to at any given time.

“Everyone here is so approachable and supportive; there’s so much knowledge in this department, which is great when you are finding your feet. When you’re new in ED, you need to know that you are surrounded by people you can trust and turn to. If someone sees you struggling, they step in to help. It’s more than a team – it feels like family.”

“I’ve been qualified for a while now, but I am still learning – in fact, in ED, where you never know what might come through those doors, you learn something new every day.

“We also have daily teaching sessions, where we learn new skills and consolidate existing ones. I don’t know of any other hospital where there is such a proactive approach to personal and team development.”

“I love the close-knit environment - that ‘family’ feel.”

“Everyone is so approachable and supportive - I am surrounded by a team I can trust”

“I learn something new every day. Daily teaching sessions help me learn new skills and sharpen existing ones”