

Job Description

Title: Apprentice Therapeutic Radiographer

Band: Entry at Band 2

Reports to: Practice Educator

Accountable to: Radiotherapy Service Manager

Post Summary:

To complete a 2- or 3-year University led BSc/MSc Therapeutic Radiography Apprenticeship and to obtain HCPC registration in order to be able to progress to a Band 5 radiographer post.

To develop the knowledge and skills required of a Therapeutic Radiographer as listed in the job description.

To attend the mandatory block academic attendance at the selected Higher Education Institute (HEI)

To participate in the departmental shift pattern between the hours of 07:00-20:00, 7 days a week.

To engage in the mandatory minimum 20% off the job directed and self-directed study, either locally at the apprenticeship placement or at a Trust hub.

To engage with the learning, clinical training and portfolio activities, and discussions with named mentors and visiting HEI Assessor.

Key Responsibilities:

Clinical

- To learn and undertake, under suitable supervision, all the radiotherapy techniques outlined in the apprenticeship program/scope of practice.
- To support and assist the radiographers to contribute to the safe and efficient running of the radiotherapy department.
- To operate, in a safe and controlled manner, the linear accelerators, superficial, and CT scanner on a rota basis, working under the supervision of a Senior Therapy Radiographer and as part of a clinical team. To report all equipment faults to the Team lead and/or clinical engineering.
- To operate the treatment and CT console in accordance with departmental protocols, under the supervision of a Senior Therapy Radiographer, safely and appropriately use the interruption, termination, and emergency off facilities.

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- To learn to conduct and complete a range of radiotherapy treatment and planning techniques, upon a range of patient types both as an autonomous practitioner and as part of a multi professional team, in a manner that meets professional, departmental, and legal standards and requirements.
- Correctly identify the patient in line with departmental protocol and assess the patients' fitness for treatment and to recognize when advice from a senior member of staff should be sought and to take appropriate action
- To learn to acquire and assess treatment verification images against accepted local protocols, and to act appropriately according to findings.
- To check and record treatment relevant data into ARIA record and verify system and learn the full functionality of the system to enable safe and efficient treatment of the patient, in a paperless department.
- To be able to use the Trust and departmental information computer system to check treatment data, patient's test results and appointments.
- To relate to all manner of patients with empathy and compassion, to respect their privacy and dignity and provide a caring and confidential service.
- Participation in the on call and Bank holiday rotas as required.
- To undertake the departmental and Trust induction programme.
- To adhere to all Trust policies including the Health and Safety Regulations; COSHH Regulations; the Data Protection Act.
- To comply with all radiation protection policies such as Ionising Radiation Regulations 2017, IR(ME)R 2000.
- To ensure that the department's identification policy is adhered to and that all patients are correctly identified prior to undergoing any radiation exposures.
- To report all incidents, untoward incidents, complaints and near misses to self, patients, or carers to the appropriate professional within a timely manner, using the Datix reporting system.
- To observe all manual handling criteria when: -
 - moving patients from waiting areas into the treatment rooms
 - transferring patients on and off the treatment couch
 - positioning patients into the correct treatment /Scanning position
 - moving patient immobilisation devices.
- To be aware of and participate in all Quality Control procedures within the Department, including routine Quality Assurance control checks for all radiotherapy equipment according to local protocols to ensure the equipment is safe for clinical use. To complete the local quality assurance checks as required.
- To be aware of and participate in the quality management system and to complete allocated department clinical audits, in a timely fashion
- To undertake any further relevant duties as required when requested by the Senior Radiographer, or leadership team.

Professional

- To continuously develop to act as an independent radiographer, meeting the standards set out within the Healthcare Professional Council's standards of proficiency.
- To use professional discretion and acquired experience to ensure clinical practice is carried out correctly, professionally and within the legal framework.

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- To maintain own level of competence through continuing professional development through participation in internal and external development opportunities and to maintain a portfolio of evidence in support of CPD undertaken.
- To identify key areas of self-progression, development and gaps in clinical practice during appraisals, one-to-one sessions with mentor.
- To undertake and participate in clinical audit and research as required and to act on the findings where possible.
- To treat as confidential all patient information obtained in the course of this post.

Communication

- To communicate effectively and appropriately, with all users of the service, across all age groups and abilities, observing confidentiality and information governance. This will include: -
- Patients, Carers & Relatives: to explain procedures, pre and post care, to check allergies and other contra indications, follow up procedures, radiation issues; appointments.
- Consultants: to discuss treatment or scanning techniques, on treatment verification results, blood results and appointments
- Physics and Dosimetry staff: identified discrepancies between planned and delivered treatment doses, to discuss upcoming treatment plans and to escalate any sudden changes to a patient's plan.
- Other Health Care Professionals: to discuss patient treatment, preparation and post procedure care, radiation issues, appointments; service issues and problems.
- Wards/Departments: on any issues involving patients; on any issue affecting the provision of the radiotherapy service.
- Admin staff: Patient appointment, patient details and information preparation, transport bookings.

Physical Effort & Working Conditions

The post holder will: -

- Have frequent use of VDU equipment.
- Have regular exposure to distressing or emotional situations daily e.g., caring for terminally ill patients or, giving feedback of a negative nature to trainees.
- Have frequent exposure to body fluids e.g., blood, urine etc and exposure to patients who have infectious or communicable diseases or infections
- Have some exposure to unpredictable workload.
- Be required to position and manoeuvre patients and equipment daily. In any clinical situation, patients may be ambulant, in a wheelchair, or on a bed or stretcher. Transfer to a treatment couch is necessary.
- Movement of wheelchairs, stretchers/beds over short distances throughout the working period is required.
- Be able to stand for long periods of time.
- Be required to undertake a moderate amount of heavy lifting, which includes accurate patient movements and the lifting of heavy accessory equipment

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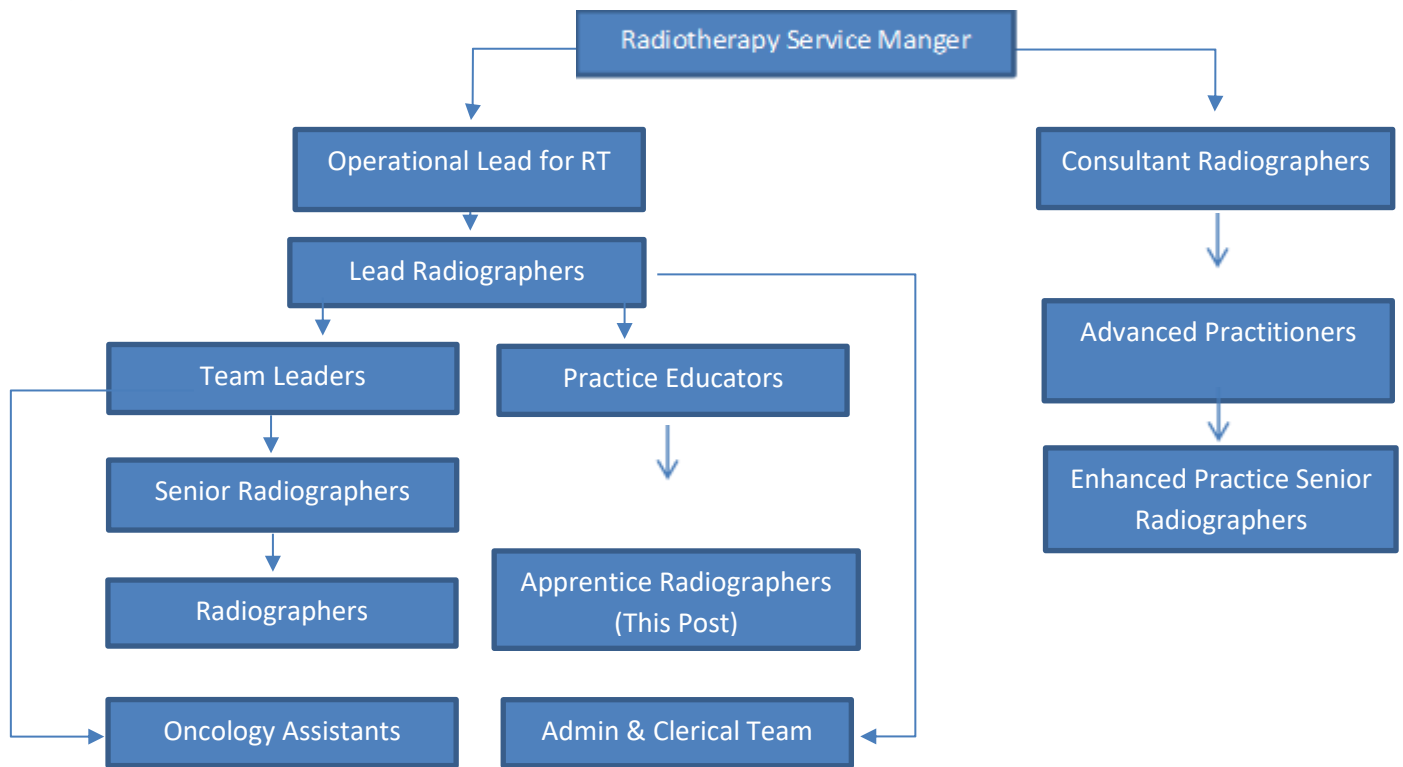


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Organisational Chart



Person Specification

Qualifications

- To comply with the entry requirements specified by the HEI provider.

Which include:

- English & Maths GCSE Grade C (4) or above plus one of the following:
 - 120 UCAS points from 3 A level science subjects. Science Subjects include Biology/Human Biology; Chemistry; Computing; Design and Technology; Electronics; Environmental Studies; Geography; Geology; Maths/Pure Maths/Further Maths; Life and Health Sciences; Physical Education; Physics; Psychology; Science (applied); Statistics OR
 - Equivalent from national BTEC qualifications e.g.: extended diploma in applied science, health science or health studies. Successful completion of an Access to HE Diploma in health studies, health science, nursing, or another science-based course.
 - Previous degree in a related subject
 - Evidence of successful study at level 3 and a minimum of 6 months experience in a support worker capacity.

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Experience

- Previous experience of an Oncology department or other NHS clinical role is desirable but not essential

Skills and Knowledge

- High levels of concentration required
- Demonstrate computer and keyboard literacy
- Professional Appearance
- Demonstrate inter-personal skills that promote confidence, compassion, empathy, respect and trust
- Self-motivated to learn and develop
- Able to use initiative
- Flexible, punctual and reliable
- Able to handle stressful situations
- Confident manner
- Able to communicate effectively across a range of mediums, and with a range of individuals

General

- Able to meet the travel requirements of the HEI selected, including block overnight stays if necessary
- Ability to manage work and self-directed learning.
- Ability to stand for long periods of time and have the strength and flexibility to manoeuvre equipment

Working together, for patients:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of quality of care.
- Be accountable and responsible.

Working together, with compassion:

- Respect the privacy and dignity of individuals.
- Demonstrate an understanding of equal opportunities.

Working together, as one team:

- Ability to work efficiently, effectively, and professionally in a multidisciplinary team.
- Demonstrate the value of everyone's contribution.

Working together, always improving:

- Understanding and experience of improving efficiency and reducing waste.
- Demonstrate an openness to improving

Job holders are required to always act in such a way that the health and well-being of children and vulnerable adults is safeguarded. Familiarisation with and adherence to the Safeguarding Policies of the Trust is an essential requirement for all employees. In addition, all staff are expected to complete essential /mandatory training in this area.

Print Name:

Date:

Signature:

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