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| Key responsibilities / role descriptionLEVEL 4 Nursing Associate |
| Nurse Associate helps to bridge the gap between a Health Care Associate and a Registered Nurse and follows proficiency standards set by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). NAs are members of the nursing team, who have gained a Foundation Degree, involving two years of higher education. The NA Apprenticeship programme is at level 5 foundation degree level. NAs work across all four fields of nursing: adult, children’s, mental health, and learning disability. Skills and responsibilities will vary depending on the clinical environment. The NA will demonstrate the values and behaviours of the NHS Constitution and knowledge of physical health, mental health and illness prevention. Duties may include: undertaking clinical tasks including venepuncture and ECGs; administration of medicines; cervical sample taking; recognising issues relating to safeguarding vulnerable children and adults. The NMC is responsible for registering and regulating nursing associates and has developed standards of proficiency for nursing associates. The NMC nursing associate register opened in January 2019. The Level 5 Nursing Associate Apprenticeship has the following requirements;* 24 months in duration
* Entry Level 3 English and Maths (this can be achieved via the functional skills qualification prior to the End Point Assessment)
* Foundation Degree approved by the NMC in line with the requirements specified in the Nursing Associates Programme Standards (NMC 2018) which includes the mandatory protected learning time and a minimum 460 hours of external practice placements.
* Registration, revalidation and fitness to practise according to the NMC Code
* As a registered health professional with the NMC an NA can complete a recognised theoretical Cervical Screening Education and Training course followed by a period of supervised practice / training, and must complete a final clinical assessment before undertaking cervical sample taking

 More information can be found about the Nurse Associate Apprenticeship route here <https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/nursing-associate-nmc-2018/>More detailed training and education guidance is included in the [Nursing Associate Education and Training pack](https://www.cmthub.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Nurse-Associate-Education-and-Training-Support-Pack.docx) |