

# Step into the NHS

## Family toolkit for secondary school competition



### Why we need you!

The [Step into the NHS](#) secondary schools' competition is inviting students (ages 11 – 14) across England to submit a fun and lively job description and job advertisement on a chosen NHS career by **30 April 2021**.

We understand that families at home are the most influential force in a child's career awareness and career decision-making. More so than ever before, your engagement at home has the power to make a huge contribution to your child's education, career aspirations and attainment.

This is why we want you to be involved in encouraging and supporting your child's entry to the competition. Your child will have started thinking about their entry and their teacher would have shared the relevant resources with them – there are some tips to help support your child's entry further down.

Here are some of last year's entries:



## How to support your child's entry

- Use the Step into the NHS [website](#) to help them explore over 350 jobs within the NHS with our [Careers A-Z](#).
- Use the [careers quiz](#) on the website with your child which suggests NHS careers based on your skills and interests.
  - Use the conversation starters below if you cannot access the website.
- Encourage your child to be creative!
  - Their job description and advertisement can be made using materials around the home – paper, colouring pens, news clippings, paints - or be digital – video or digital art.
  - If your child chooses to film a video, they might need your help. Try to film in a space with lots of light, like near a window or a lamp.
- Help your child send their entry to their teacher before **30 April**.

## Conversation starters

If you wonder how best to start conversations with your child about NHS careers, use the prompts below to highlight which NHS careers they might take interest in. Use positive language and take your time when exploring your child's answers.

- **What is your favourite subject? Could an NHS job involve it?**
- **What do you think you're best at? What job could you use this skill in?**
- **Do you prefer working with your hands or doing lots of reading and sums?**
- **Would you like your job in the NHS to involve meeting lots of people?**
- **Would you like to work in a busy hospital or an office?**
- **Would you like to do shift work or work 9-5 office hours?**
- **Would you prefer to work with adults or children?**
- **How do you think an NHS career could have a positive impact on people?**
- **What jobs are you already aware of in the NHS?**
- **Do you know anyone that works for the NHS?**

Remember, the NHS employs over 1.3 million people in England alone and there is a breadth of roles available – not all of them mean working with patients, or being good at science. Roles such as finance manager, chef or arts co-ordinator are needed in the NHS.

Do you know parents of children that go to other schools than your child? Do you think they would like to take part in this competition? Share a copy of this toolkit with them or tell them to search 'Step into the NHS' and talk to their child's teacher and help raise aspirations of children nationwide!

### **Handy weblinks**

**Step into the NHS for secondary schools and intro video –**  
<https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/secondary-schools>

**Career A-Z**  
<https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/careers>

**Career test**  
<https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/careers/take-the-test>

**Glossary of careers**  
<https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/careers>

**Video of last year's winning entry**  
<https://youtu.be/ICz5meGo3vs>