



**University Dental Hospital of Manchester  
The School for Dental Care Professionals**

**Dental Nurse (GDC 2023) ST1431 Apprenticeship Standard  
City & Guilds Level 3 Dental Nursing Practitioner (Diploma) (5238 – 33)  
Factsheet**

### Summary

The School for Dental Care Professionals is looking to train enthusiastic and motivated Apprentice Dental Nurses. Successful applicants will undertake and fulfil the educational and clinical requirements of the Dental Nurse (GDC 2023) ST1431 Apprenticeship Standard and the City & Guilds Level 3 Dental Nursing Practitioner (Diploma) programme. The qualification has been approved by the General Dental Council (GDC) as meeting the requirements for applicants to the dental nurse professional register.



MFT is an approved Provider of Apprenticeship training programmes and is on the Apprenticeship Provider and Assessment Register (APAR).

Proud to be an Ofsted “**Good**” provider of Apprenticeships, we look forward to welcoming you onto one of our upcoming cohorts.

### Who is the qualification for?

The qualification is open to applications from Apprentice Dental Nurses who are employed in a dental clinical practice/setting.

### What does the qualification cover?

As an Apprentice Dental Nurse, you will learn, develop, and practice the skills required for employment and career progression in the dental field. The content covers and is mapped to the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (KSB's) within the Dental Nurse (GDC 2023) ST1431 apprenticeship standard and meets the requirements of the General Dental Council (GDC) Safe Practitioner Framework (2023).

### Entry requirements

- You will need to be employed in a dental clinical practice/setting as an Apprentice Dental Nurse to achieve the requirements of the programme. If you are *not* currently employed, we can support you with seeking employment in a suitable dental clinical practice/setting.
- As an Apprentice Dental Nurse on our programme, if you do not already hold Level 2 certificates in English and maths, we can also support you to achieve these qualifications. These are delivered alongside the apprenticeship at no extra cost to you, these qualifications are equivalent to C+ / 4+ at GCSE and will further support your career development. As of 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025, the UK government has removed the mandatory requirement for apprentices who are 19+ to achieve these qualifications to complete their apprenticeship with the employer's agreement.
- Understand the role of a Dental Nurse.
- Possess good communication, organisational and interpersonal skills.
- Have good manual dexterity skills.
- Be trustworthy, dependable, have a professional manner and be committed to patient care.

## Course information

- The programme is delivered over 18 months, you will be expected to undertake the academic component of the programme by attending a study day for 1 day per week (this will equate to 20% off the working week).
- The programme is delivered via a blended learning approach, this is through MS Teams and face to face at the school.
- You will be assigned and supported by a designated Assessor/Mentor and Dental Nurse Tutor who are occupationally competent, have a wide range of experience in the profession, are GDC registrants and committed to your success.
- You will be allocated a workplace Mentor to provide onsite support and guidance.
- Throughout the programme and clinical practice/setting, you will gain the knowledge, skills, and behaviours to complete a portfolio of evidence.
- A Service Level Agreement (SLA) will be drawn up between the school, (training provider), employer and Apprentice Dental Nurse.
- The programme is funded through the Apprenticeship Levy and therefore fully funded.

## Structure of course and assessment processes

To achieve the apprenticeship, you will be required to successfully complete the:

1. **City & Guilds Level 3 Dental Nursing Practitioner Diploma.**
2. **Maths** Grade C+ / 4+ at GCSE or equivalent if you are an apprentice aged 16 – 18 years (19+ exempt with employer agreement).
3. **English** Grade C+ / 4+ at GCSE or equivalent if you are an apprentice aged 16 – 18 years (19+ exempt with employer agreement).
4. **End Point Assessment (EPA).**

The Apprentice Dental Nurse must complete ongoing assessments to achieve all **11** mandatory units of the City & Guilds Level 3 Dental Nursing Practitioner Diploma:

Unit	Unit title	GLH
301	Preparing for professional practice in dental nursing	44
302	Health and safety practices in the dental setting	35
303	Prevention and control of infection in the dental setting	44
304	Dental and regional anatomy, oral health assessments and treatment planning	41
305	Recognising and supporting actions during first aid and medical emergencies	28
306	The safe use of ionizing radiation to produce quality radiographic images	32
307	Provide support for the control of periodontal disease and caries, and the restoration of cavities	29
308	Provide support during the stages of prosthetic treatments	28

309	Provide support during the stages of endodontic procedures	24
310	Provide support during extractions and minor oral surgery	25
311	Scientific and practical information to support the patient's oral and physical health	51

### Assessment overview of End Point Assessment (EPA)

To successfully achieve the Dental Nurse (GDC 2023) ST1431 Apprenticeship Standard the Apprentice Dental Nurse must pass the following:

Assessment component	Method	Duration	Marks	Marking	Grading
501	MCQ assessment	45 mins	30	Externally marked	Pass/fail
502	MCQ assessment	45 mins	30	Externally marked	Pass/fail
330	Portfolio of evidence	n/a	n/a	Internally marked	Pass/fail
331	Summative Practical observation	60 mins	n/a	Internally marked	Pass/fail

#### MCQ assessments:

The Apprentice Dental Nurse must pass the two multiple choice question (MCQ) assessment components, 501 and 502. These are scheduled in line with the programme delivery. Assessment component 501 covers units 301, 302, 303, 305 and 306. Assessment component 502 covers units 304, 307, 308, 309, 310 and 311. The assessments are designed to assess the Apprentice Dental Nurses knowledge and understanding of the content of the qualification by using a range of question types. It will be sat online and invigilated under examination conditions.

#### Portfolio of evidence:

The Apprentice Dental Nurse **must** provide evidence which meets the minimum evidence requirements for each unit. Where learning outcomes are not required to be covered by the portfolio of evidence, these will be sampled within the MCQ assessments.

As part of the portfolio of evidence, there is a minimum requirement of **three** observations of practice in the dental clinical practice/setting (workplace), these must be carried out by the Assessor. The three observations are intended to be holistic in nature, gathering evidence from across multiple units within each observation, where this is possible. Dental procedures not observed within the three holistic observations may be carried out by an expert witness.

#### Practical observation:

The summative practical observation is a final assessment that occurs following completion of the **three** practical observations undertaken as part of the portfolio of evidence. A final observation of practice allows the Assessor to observe the Apprentice Dental Nurse during their normal everyday work, applying knowledge, using practical skills, and demonstrating behaviours in real time. This method of assessment in a real work situation is deemed the most appropriate method to use to assess competence due to the practical nature of the occupation.

## Completion of the Apprenticeship

The City & Guilds Level 3 Dental Nursing Practitioner (Diploma) qualification is required for Dental Nurse Apprentices undertaking the end-point assessment for the Dental Nurse (GDC 2023) ST1431 apprenticeship standard.

Following completion and certification of the City & Guilds Level 3 Dental Nursing Practitioner (Diploma) (England), centres will be required to undertake a Gateway check with City & Guilds.

For the Gateway, the centre will need to provide evidence and completion of:

- the City & Guilds Level 3 Dental Nursing Practitioner (Diploma) (England).
- English and mathematics in line with the apprenticeship funding rules.

**The apprentice is not required to undertake any additional assessment post Gateway.**

## Registration with the GDC and opportunities for further progression

The successful outcome of the Dental Nurse (GDC 2023) ST1431 Apprenticeship Standard allows the Dental Nurse Apprentice to apply to enter the General Dental Council professional register as a Dental Nurse. After being accepted onto the register, the Apprentice Dental Nurse is then recognised as a qualified and competent dental nurse and may also progress and develop existing skills and knowledge within the dental and healthcare sectors.

### **General Dental Council (GDC):**

The General Dental Council (GDC) is the UK-wide statutory regulator of more than 120,000 members of the dental team. The primary purpose is to protect patient safety and maintain public confidence in the dental professions. To achieve this, the GDC:

- Maintain registers of dentists and dental care professionals.
- Issue guidance on standards of conduct and practice.
- Maintain high standards of dental education.
- Ensure that dental professionals keep their skills and knowledge up to date through Continuing Professional Development (CPD).
- Act if there are doubts about a dental professional's fitness to practise.

<https://www.gdc-uk.org/about-us/what-we-do>

## Further information/enquiries

If you are interested in applying, please complete the attached application form and return it either by post or email to [admin.dcp@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:admin.dcp@mft.nhs.uk) If you would like to discuss the programme with a member of the team, please telephone; 0161 272 5670.