

ACE Practical Portfolio Career in Children's Nurse

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Job profile: Children's nurse

- The role of a children's nurse is to work with young children.
- One of the main duties is assessing the child's needs, considering their medical conditions, social, cultural and family needs.
- A key aspect is to show empathy and respect to the child, parent, or carers.
- Most importantly you need to interpret the child's behaviour and emotions, then assess the child completely, because a child won't always explain how they are feeling.

Duties of a children's nurse

Responsibilities

- Write down a report and check the update on patients.
- Checking for temperature and prepare them for operation when needed.
- Also provide support for patient and relative.
- Get patient ready for drip or blood infusion

Qualifications

- To become a children's nurse, you will need to complete a nursing programme, then you can be registered to (NMC) The Nursing & Midwifery Council.
- 50% of the course is in hospital and community surgery and day centers.
- You must be able to cope with difficult situations, have very good communication skills, listen to patients and work with their family
- Be able to work independently as well as part of a team.

Case study of senior staff nurse: Rachel Blackmore

- According to Rachel Blackmore, (Senior staff nurse: Rachel Blackmore | Prospects.ac.uk, 2021), she has seen patients recover from very unwell to a full recovery within a couple of days.
- The advice she can give to anyone wanting to do this job is: you need to willingly take shifts, prepare for difficult and stressful situations. (Senior staff nurse: Rachel Blackmore | Prospects.ac.uk, 2021).

The complete guide to becoming a children's nurse

- An article written by Grace Berry, a Paediatric Critical Care Nurse, explains her experience upon becoming a children's nurse.
- She is inspired by the children that she cares for and is amazed at their uniqueness.
- Grace mentions that the everyday is different, the environment is fast paced, and you never stop learning, (The Complete Guide To Becoming A Children's Nurse, 2021).

Skills needed

- Respect
- Compassion
- Good communication skills
- Work independently
- Observational skills
- Teamwork skills
- Work in a fast-paced environment
- Resilience

SWOT Analysis

Strengths:

- Very good listener
- Quick learner
- Positively minded
- Fair in handling issues
- Responsible
- Patient
- Can work well as part of a team
- Easily adaptable

SWOT Analysis

Weaknesses:

- Nervous

Opportunities:

- Enhance and improve on IT and software skills.

Threats:

- Pressure from sudden workload and deadlines.

References

1. Prospects.ac.uk. 2021. *Children's nurse job profile | Prospects.ac.uk*. [online] Available at: <<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/childrens-nurse>> [Accessed 5 August 2021].
2. Prospects.ac.uk. 2021. *Senior staff nurse: Rachel Blackmore | Prospects.ac.uk*. [online] Available at: <<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/case-studies/senior-staff-nurse-rachel-blackmore>> [Accessed 5 August 2021].
3. Nurses.co.uk. 2021. *The Complete Guide To Becoming A Children's Nurse*. [online] Available at: <<https://www.nurses.co.uk/blog/the-complete-guide-to-becoming-a-childrens-nurse/>> [Accessed 6 August 2021].