

# Sirona Spotlight – Louise’s Career Journey



**Name:** Louise



**Apprenticeship:** Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship (RNDA)

**Career journey:** *“In 2011, I joined the NHS as a Band 1 Housekeeper at Weston General Hospital which is what inspired me to pursue a career as a Nurse. Three years’ later, I qualified as an Assistant Practitioner and joined North Somerset Community Partnership (now Sirona care & health) in the community, the following year. My dream has always been to become a registered Nurse but at first didn’t think it was possible due to funding. During the pandemic (2020), I decided to follow my heart and apply for direct entry to university regardless – I was delighted to obtain two offers. Shortly after, an apprenticeship opportunity arose - I was accepted onto the course! To be able to gain my nursing degree alongside working means that I can have all the benefits of employment (including a pension!) while studying for my dream role.”*

**How have you found undertaking an apprenticeship with Sirona?** *“During this time my partner was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and sadly passed away in August of this year. Despite the challenges I’ve faced, I am delighted to have passed my first year. Since starting my final year, I am determined more than ever to continue qualify. If it wasn’t for the wonderful support received from my team, UWE and the Sirona Apprenticeships team, I don’t think I’d still be on track.”*

**Future career aspirations:** *“I’m due to qualify in 2024 and would love to continue in the community as a Registered Nurse. One day my dream is to specialise, perhaps in tissue viability or diabetes. Let’s see what opportunities come up in the future!”*

**Huge thanks to Louise for sharing your experience and for all your hard work – we’re thrilled you chose to do your apprenticeship with us!**