**Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust Careers Day 2015**

**Criteria for selection**

Whilst we try to accept as many students as we can, we are almost always over-subscribed and sadly we have to disappoint some applicants. We do endeavour to make the process of selection as fair as possible, which is why we request a reference and GCSE grades. It is very important that we fill the course with students who are genuinely interested in a career in the NHS, rather than those who might like to enjoy a day out of school!

The course is run as a service to local schools and we therefore give preference to those within the Reading area or nearby, whilst not excluding those from further afield.

The course is open to those students in both Year 11 and Year 12, however Year 12 students will have priority and in practice there are very few spaces left for Year 11 students. Whilst they are welcome to apply and on some occasions we may be able to fit some in, we are aware that Year 12 students need to provide evidence that they have investigated the reality of a career in the NHS prior to filling in their UCAS form the following October.

Because many universities do use GCSE results as part of their screening process, we look at students’ GCSE results and predicted grades and give preference to those who are likely to meet university entry requirements. It is an unfortunate fact of life that GCSE grades do really matter and whilst we do not wish to discourage pupils, we also need to be realistic.

We give no preference to any particular school/college within the Reading area, each student is considered on their own merits regardless of which school/college they attend. This may result in more students from some schools being accepted than others but the selection process does not take the school itself into consideration.

We do sometimes receive applications which do not specify GCSE grades. This will lead to our administrator having to contact the school to ask for the grades, which results in extra work for everyone, so please do remember to include them. In the case of Year 11 pupils please include realistic predicted grades. If there are particular extenuating circumstances please do let us know.

The decision as to who is offered a place is final.

Miss Claire Dhaffir

Work Experience Coordinator

Royal Berkshire Hospital