

## **Bassetlaw Hospital's Children's Ward update (December 2018)**

In January 2017, Ward A3 (Paediatrics) at Bassetlaw Hospital closed to inpatient admissions from 7pm each day. This came as a result of gaps in nursing and junior doctor rotas.

In October 2017, following a period of review and actions to try to reduce vacancies, the decision was taken to extend this action for the foreseeable future whilst further work is undertaken by partners in the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System (ICS) to identify possible regional solutions for issues such as recruitment.

As a result of this change, an enhanced daytime service was introduced and a paediatric consultant remains on site until 6pm, with paediatric medical staff available 24 hours a day to support the Emergency Department and the Maternity Service. This means that any children presenting at the Emergency Department continue to be able to be seen by a paediatric doctor and offered the necessary treatment at Bassetlaw Hospital. If additional observation is required, children are transferred to Doncaster Royal Infirmary.

In 2018, we have undertaken the following Registered Nurse recruitment exercises:

### **March**

A recruitment fayre was held on both Bassetlaw Hospital and Doncaster Royal Infirmary sites for newly qualified nurses in all areas of the Trust, including Paediatrics.

### **April and May**

An advert on NHS Jobs for both Bassetlaw and Doncaster sites for all areas within Paediatrics.

Although all vacancies were initially appointed to, several applicants subsequently withdrew. As a result of this, those initially unsuccessful candidates were contacted, re-interviewed and offered jobs. Two candidates accepted posts: One appointed to Doncaster and the other to Bassetlaw (as per preference).

### **July**

A Band Five Registered Children's Nurse post was advertised for the Children's Assessment Unit within Bassetlaw Hospital.

In addition to this, an internal Band Six Respiratory Nurse post became available. Two candidates were appointed, however one was the Band Six Sister on the Children's Assessment Unit at Bassetlaw Hospital.

In this month, we also advertised for a Band Six post for Children's Assessment Unit. One person was successfully appointed.

### **September**

A recruitment fayre was held on both Bassetlaw Hospital and Doncaster Royal Infirmary sites for newly qualified nurses in all areas of the Trust, including Paediatrics.

## **October**

A Band Five Registered Children's Nurse post was advertised for the Children's Assessment Unit at Bassetlaw Hospital. Two candidates were interviewed, one of whom was not appointable, the other successful candidate wanted to work at Doncaster Royal Infirmary and not Bassetlaw Hospital.

## **November 2018**

A Band Five Registered Children's Nurse post went to advert for all areas in Paediatrics.

All four candidates were offered posts, however since this process two existing members of staff have given notice to take up opportunities in other providers.

Also in this month, a Band Six Sister post was advertised for Bassetlaw Hospital. All external candidates were not appointable, however internal candidate appointed.

## **December 2018**

Currently, a Band Five Registered Children's Nurse post is being advertised for the Children's Assessment Unit at Bassetlaw Hospital. Currently, there are two applicants and interviews will take place 12 December 2018.

If both are successful this will fill current rota gaps, which are due to one staff nurse permanently transferring to Bassetlaw Emergency Department and one leaving the Trust. This will not result in any over establishment of staffing on the Children's Assessment Unit.