

Debbie Kilmartin – Education Advisor

I trained at another hospital but this is the only hospital I've worked in and I love the fact that it's a smaller District General Hospital. You can walk down a corridor and always see a familiar, friendly face smiling back at you. I've been here for 14 years now, there's a real sense of community here and it's very easy to take for granted just how friendly it is.

I know a lot of our mature students are drawn here for the locality as well. You've got easy access to big cities Derby, Sheffield and Nottingham but you're a stone's throw from the beautiful Peak District and Derbyshire Dales. It really is the best of both worlds and a great place to settle with the family.

Jenny Reaney – Play Specialist

I've lived in Derbyshire my whole life and it's such a fantastic place to live. I've got a Springer Spaniel so to be able to get to the Peak District to go for long walks is brilliant and there are plenty of country parks in Chesterfield. We've got Meadowhall on our doorstep for high street shopping and Chesterfield is an old market town so there's plenty of unusual shops and lots to see.

I've worked at the Royal for eight years, it was my first job and I love it here. I left to work at a bigger city hospital but came back after three months because it wasn't the same. Every time you leave the ward you see somebody you know, whether it's a porter, a domestic and I didn't get the same feeling when I left. There are so many people who have worked here for more than 20 years and that's created a real team spirit that I think has always been here.

Ruth Masterson – Staff Nurse

I've worked in the NHS for 34 years and spent the last three at the Chesterfield Royal. I've worked mainly in the community so didn't think I would like it here, I moved over with the nursing team from the old Walton Hospital when the therapy services came over, but I was wrong. We were welcomed from the moment we arrived and we feel like part of the team.

What I like most about working here is that there is a real effort made to allow people to voice their concerns. We have proper, scheduled, facilitated sessions that allow us to pass on our thoughts, make suggestions and explain how we think services could be improved. They may not be able to act on everything but it shows a genuine willingness by management to make staff feel valued.

I also discovered that I'm one of more than 300 members of staff, that's almost one in ten, that have worked here for more than 30 years. I think that tells you all you need to know about how staff feel about working here.