

# Healthcare Science Career of the Week



## Prison Nurse

Area of HCS: Primary Healthcare Team

Pay Scale: £25k - £60k

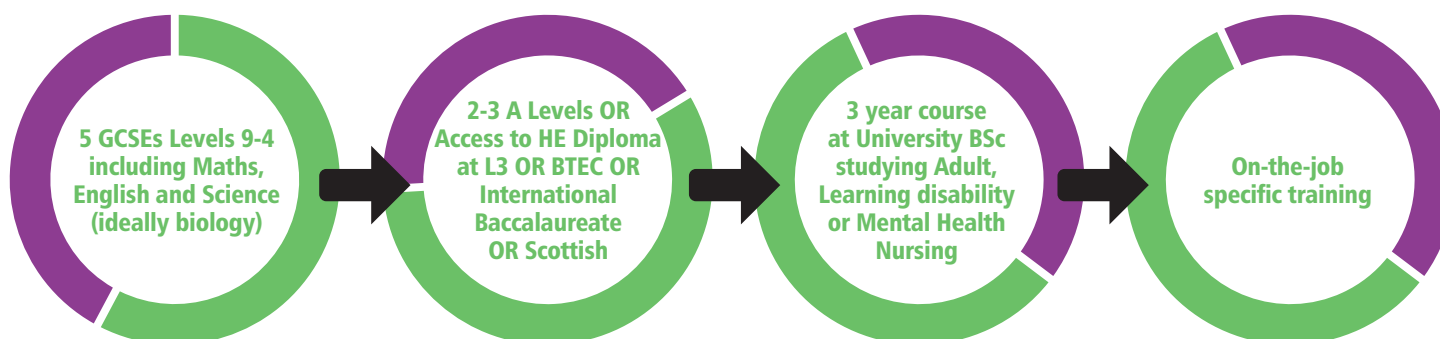
### AMAZING FACT

- There are currently 80,000 prisoners detained in prisons in England and Wales, it's estimated about 90% of prisoners have some sort of mental health problem, the most common being depression and anxiety.

As a prison nurse you will have a similar role to a General Practice nurse, but with a greater focus on mental health and substance abuse. Many prison nurses describe their job as extremely rewarding due to the opportunity to help and make a difference in the lives of vulnerable people cut off from society. Your role will include taking blood samples, minor wound management, women's cervical smears and smoking cessation. There will also be the opportunity to support doctors in minor surgery, not something a nurse would usually experience!

You will be part of a general practice within the prison and can be employed by the prison directly, the NHS or a care provider. A misconception of the prison environment is that it carries risks or dangers for the nurse, however prison nurses are highly supported by a well-trained team of wardens, officers, team leaders and managers. You will have the opportunity to work in a variety of locations such as open prisons, high secure units and young offender's institutes.

### What to do to get into this career...



#### Other specialist nursing roles:

- GP Nurse
- Neonatal Nurse
- Occupational Health Nurse
- Theatre Nurse
- District Nurse



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#### READ THIS:

"A day in the life of a prison nurse"  
<http://blog.staffnurse.com/day-in-the-life-series-prison-nurse-and-get-rid-of-those-misconceptions!>