My Story

My name is Rachel Griffiths and I am a band 5 Diagnostic Radiographer and work for Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust, where I am based at Heartlands Hospital. I have worked for the trust since July 2007 and this is my first job having graduated from Sheffield Hallam University in June 2007.

I had never really considered moving to Birmingham, as I am originally from North Wales and having spent the previous three years at university in Sheffield I had no family or friends in the area. However due to a shortage of band 5 jobs towards the end of my third year at university I was forced to apply for jobs in places further afield. Having had my interview at Heartlands I was very impressed with the department, as it seemed a very friendly and pleasant place to work.

I was very pleased to get offered a job at the hospital. However deciding to relocate to Birmingham for this job was a big step for me, but I saw this as a personal challenge. I was very apprehensive about moving down to Birmingham and starting my job, but I instantly felt at ease once I had started working, this was mainly down to the friendliness of all the staff in the department who were all very accommodating and made me feel very welcome.

I have now worked at Heartlands for almost 18 months now, and really enjoy my job and coming to work. Although I work in a busy department everybody works as part of a team and help each other out. I also find other members of staff in the hospital very helpful and friendly, which creates a pleasant environment in which to work.

During the past 18 months I have also gained confidence and developed my skills in areas such as, Fluoroscopy, CT where undertake CT head and neck scans when I work out of hours. As well as in a variety of theatre work including vascular, urology and orthopaedic theatre.

I had previously only planned on staying in Birmingham for about 6 months until I could find a job closer to home, but I am very happy here and have no intentions to leave the trust or Birmingham any time soon.

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