Nursing and Midwifery: Preparing for a life long career
What is nursing?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4pelFulusSk
What is nursing?

Nursing in all fields is the use of clinical judgment in the provision of care to enable people to:

• Improve health
• Maintain health
• Recover health
• Manage health problems
• Achieve the best quality of life, whatever the disease or disability, until death

(RCN, 2014)
Qualifications

- Nurses and midwives study a three year degree
- The course is 50% clinical practice and 50% academic study
- On completion you will have a BSc Hons degree…..
  AND
- Your registration with your professional body. The Nursing and Midwifery Council
Key Skills

- Excellent people skills
- Good communication and observation
- Interest in physical & psychological processes
- Ability to answer questions and offer advice
- Happy to work as part of a team
- Able to respond to emotionally charged situations
What makes a good nurse/midwife?

- The ability to work well under pressure
- Good communication skills
- Academic aptitude
- A professional attitude and responsibility
- Management skills
- The ability to work well and as part of a team
- Understanding, insight and ambition in chosen area
Challenges of the course

- Prioritising - academic work / patient care
- Engagement with programme
- Managing shift work, (weekends, nights, holidays)
- Self-discipline and stamina
- Physically, psychologically and emotionally stressful
- Responsibility
- Conflict
Rewards of the course

- Job satisfaction
- Career development
- Stimulating work
- Every day is different
- Close and supportive team work
- Learning and teaching
- Uniform
What are we looking for?

- Compassion and caring
- Professional behavior
- Numeracy and literacy
- Communication
- Decision making
- Leadership potential
- Critical and analytical thinking
- Motivation and resilience
Career Prospects

— a standard working week of 37.5 hours

— holiday entitlements of 27 days per year, plus eight general and public holidays, rising to 33 days after ten years' service

— new pay enhancements to reward out of hours, shift and overtime working

— better career and pay progression based on the application of knowledge and skills

— annual personal development review to support career aspirations.
Salary

- NHS starting salaries for graduates with nursing/midwifery degrees start on over £21,000 a year with opportunity to earn more with overtime and other additional payments, which compares very well with other public sector jobs.

- The highest paid NHS nurses can earn up to £97,500 as nurse consultants or consultant midwives or directors of nursing.
Next Steps

- Consider why you wish to be a nurse or midwife - what do they ACTUALLY do?
- Investigate specific field of nursing / midwifery
- Entry requirements – check University web sites, attend open days
- NHS Careers Web Site
- Care / voluntary experience?
- Nursing / midwifery journals / web sites
Thanks for listening
Any questions?