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## Professional Development

Nursing in St. Vincent's offers an abundance of opportunities for professional growth and development.

We provide:

- **An autonomous and supportive environment**
- **Exposure to the latest advances in treatment**
- **Diverse patient populations**
- **Continuous challenges to stimulate critical thinking skills**

St Vincent's is strongly committed and supportive of career development for nurses.

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## Specialist Professional Development

The following Higher Diploma Programmes are run in conjunction with University College Dublin and are facilitated in the relevant specialist areas:

Higher Diploma in Cancer Nursing (Breast care strand)

Higher Diploma in Gastrointestinal Nursing (Colorectal Strand)

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## How to apply for a position

You can contact the Nursing Human Resources on **01 2774180** or alternatively you can forward your CV or request more information by emailing [nurseopenday@st-vincents.ie](mailto:nurseopenday@st-vincents.ie)

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## Philosophy

The following philosophy underpins all we do.....

*"We strive for harmonious collaboration between all members of the multidisciplinary team, to promote an environment conducive to health and well being. Mutual respect for patients, relatives and staff of all our cultural differences and religious beliefs are ever paramount. We aim to provide health and well being to a successful discharge or to a dignified and comfortable repose."*

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## Mission Statement

*"We strive for excellence in meeting the holistic needs of our patients in a caring and healing environment in which the essential contribution of each member of staff is valued. The values of human dignity, compassion, justice, quality and advocacy, rooted in the mission and philosophy of the Religious Sisters of Charity, guide us in our work. We will, within the foregoing context, make every effort to maintain excellence in clinical care, teaching and research."*

*Comh mheas, comh bhá, comh phártíocht agus comp oibre bunsraith ár gcuid saothar uile.*

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## Core Values of Hospital

*Human dignity  
Compassion  
Justice  
Quality  
Advocacy*

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## Informal Visits

Informal visits to ward areas are welcomed by prior arrangement with the Clinical Nurse Manager. Please contact hospital and ask for relevant ward. Hospital Tel No: 01 2778000

# Thinking about a Career in Surgical Nursing?

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## Information for nurse interested in working in Surgical Nursing

How would you like to be part of a dynamic multidisciplinary team, which offers a unique experience in the surgical care of patients?

We are recruiting nurses to work as members of the team providing care to patients in the following Departments.

**St Agnes' Ward /St James' Ward  
St Laurence's Ward/St Raphael's Ward  
& St Teresa's Ward**

St. Vincent's University Hospital,  
Elm Park,  
Dublin 4.

**Phone: 012774180**  
**Email: [nurseopenday@st-vincents.ie](mailto:nurseopenday@st-vincents.ie)**  
**<http://www.st-vincents.ie>**

## Ward Profiles

### St Agnes' Ward

14 Bedded ENT and Plastics.

### St James' Ward

9 Bedded - Ophthalmology Unit. This is a 5 day Unit which also caters for Day cases.

### St Laurence's Ward

27 Bedded Orthopaedic Trauma Unit. The ward caters for all orthopaedic cases in the South Dublin and Wicklow Areas. Specialties include Orthopaedic Trauma, spinal surgery, soft tissue and bone tumours.

### St Raphael's Ward

35 Bedded Breast/General Surgery. This ward provides specialist Breast care for the symptomatic breast service and is the base for the Surgical Professorial Unit.

### St Teresa's Ward

29 Bedded specializing in Colorectal, Hepatobiliary alongside General Surgery. Providing care for patients with Crohn's Disease, Ulcerative Colitis and malignant conditions.

## Nursing Structure for Wards.

The nursing team is led by a CNM2 with overall responsibility for the ward. This role is aided by 1-2 CNM1 in each area and further supported by a Divisional Nurse Manager. The Nursing team also includes a number of Clinical Nurse Specialists that support the Multidisciplinary Team. The Breast Care Team includes an Advanced Nurse Practitioner.

## Multidisciplinary Team includes

Consultants, NCHDs, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Pharmacist, Dietician, Medical Social Worker, Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care.

Care is planned on an individual basis by the Multidisciplinary Team in conjunction with patient and family to ensure the highest standard of care is given.

All areas are supported by a ward orderly, ward secretary, catering assistants and cleaning staff.

## Orientation

New staff members attend the hospital orientation programme (5 Days) facilitated by the Nurse Education Centre.

Mandatory in-service education is covered in this week: CPR, Moving and Handling and Intravenous Policy.

A comprehensive ward-based orientation programmes is offered to all staff allocated to a clinical area.

New staff are allocated a link nurse to assist them in familiarisation and orientation to the clinical area.

## Duty Patterns

Duty Patterns offer flexibility to balance, where possible, work and personal commitments.

Full time and part time hours are available in each of the ward areas.

Internal rotation to night duty is in operation. This usually involves working one week on and one week off.

## Annual Leave

Holidays for full time nursing staff (pro rata for part-time) are planned in the following way:

- **78 Hours (2 weeks) by the end of April**
- **156 Hours (4 weeks) by the end of August**
- **With the remainder to be taken by the end of December**

Holidays are calculated in hours and are taken in consultation with the Clinical Nurse Manager.

## Study Leave

A comprehensive Study Leave Policy supports the continuing professional development of nursing staff. Each nurse has the opportunity to attend:

- Short Courses
- Relevant Specialist Conferences
- Higher Diploma Programmes
- BSc in Nursing/ Management
- MSc in Nursing/ Management/Education

A detailed study leave application, including a learning contract, is completed as part of the application process.