

During Virtual Learning Week 2022 we will be releasing seven inspiring stories of how colleagues navigated educational and social challenges to get to where they are today.

The videos will be posted on our NES YouTube channel [NHS Education for Scotland - YouTube](#) Subscribe for notifications of new resources being posted.

“How did I get here?” are a collection of career stories told by healthcare support workers, educators and clinicians. Hear how Linda, David, June, Angela, Brian, Darren and Beverly overcame different challenges to be in the roles they get so much satisfaction from now.

Each day we will add new career stories on our You Tube channel and can post a question for the live Q&A panel on Thursday 3 March via this [form](#)

Monday's Career Stories

How Did I Get Here? | A Career Story by Linda Harris | NHS Education for Scotland

Linda's Story; How did I get here? A secondment opportunity took Linda from a difficult situation to work in the organisational development team. Her love of learning and teaching then took over! Linda's message is that support is out there – maybe not where you expect it, but find it, trust it and go with it as you have no idea where it can take you.

How Did I Get Here? | A Career Story by David Mclaughlin | NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

David's Story; Lack of support for dyslexia at high school meant learning was not a good experience for David. It was through caring for a relative that he found his way into care work, and from there to the NHS as a healthcare support worker (HCSWs) in a busy respiratory ward. David now leads on education and development for HCSWs in Scotland's largest health board, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, participating in a wide range of projects and advocating for improved access to learning for all HCSWs.

Tuesday's Career Stories

How Did I Get Here? | A Career Story by June Livey | NHS Education for Scotland

June's Story; June found that despite having lots of work experience, and having had roles which she excelled in she lacked confidence in her own abilities. Bringing up her family led to her taking some time out of the workplace, she struggled with interviews and lost confidence in her skills. By joining a supportive team at NES who believed in her, June was able to develop her skills and gain a promotion within the organisation. June's motto is with your team behind you – you can do anything!

How Did I Get Here? | A Career Story by Brian Rafferty | NHS Education for Scotland

Brian's Story; Brian describes how he found his way to working in a nursing home following a challenging time in his family life. He worked his way via SVQs and access courses into nursing, becoming a registered nurse, eventually becoming a nurse endoscopic and teaching students at university. He reminds us that taking the first step is the hardest part, and that we should trust the people we meet along the way who believe in us.

How Did I Get Here? | A Career Story by Angela King | NHS Education for Scotland

Angela's Story: When Angela was small she wanted to be a princess, she tells us that whilst that didn't exactly work out, she has had an amazing journey. She is now a Senior Educator who is passionate about supporting others to develop their full potential. It was not an easy journey however, she sees life as an adventure, it is about the people you meet along the way who believe in you and the opportunities that brings. We are very proud of our modern day Princess!

Wednesday's Stories

How Did I Get Here? | A Career Story by Darren Middleton | NHS Education for Scotland

Darren's Story: Darren loves what he does now, but he never thought this would be where he ended up. Growing up he had one clear target– his sport of judo. Injury changed everything, and by a roundabout route he found that teaching others gave him the same buzz that his sport had. He reminds us that it is OK to not know what you want to do, and to keep trying until you find the thing you love.

How Did I Get Here? | A Career Story by Beverley Wilson | NHS Grampian

Beverly's Story: Beverly's story is one of two halves spanning over 20 years in the NHS. She initially had a career as respiratory physiologist, but needed to find a better work:life balance for her family. She became Occupational Therapy Assistant in social care then moved back the NHS as an Associate Practice Educator in NHS Grampian. She reminds us that our careers don't have to take a linear path, and encourages us to take every opportunity to develop ourselves along the way. She has just secured a promoted post as an Improvement Advisor, well done Bev!