

# EMMA EDWARDS

## DENTAL NURSING, DAINTREE FAMILY DENTAL CLINIC

**Why did you choose to undertake a traineeship?** I decided to do a traineeship as I thought it would be a good pathway for myself to get into dentistry.

**What has your traineeship been like so far?** I believe my job has its challenges, but it has taken me very far. It has given me a pathway into further dentistry studies and oral health which has always been a massive passion. My duties include sterilisation, assisting the dentist, patient care, reception, surgeries including implants, bone grafts, sinus lifts/graft and cosmetic dentistry including veneers, crowns and bridges. Also assisting the dentist in general anaesthetic.

**Describe a typical day in the clinic for you?** Besides from the long hours and having patients joke about it being toothhurty- 2:30 lol...

I wouldn't really call any day the same, each one is different. We see up to 30 patients a day considering on the procedures. Either it be emergencies/ root canal treatment or extraction. Or maybe even a planned 4 hour implant surgery - each day differs. We must provide high standards of infection control, (you'll end up having OCD) also high standards of patient care, making sure each and every patient is comfortable- because not many people like coming to the dentist..

Besides from assisting, you'll be sterilising, answering phones, booking patients and making payments.

**What personal skills have you developed from doing the traineeship?** I believe I have always been confident and independent but it wasn't until having a full time job that I've seen myself really using these skills.

**Why should students consider doing a dental nursing traineeship?** I believe that it is such a great opportunity which can create so many different pathways. You have on the job training, support and also will be studying.

You not only learn about dental but you create beautiful relationships with patients that you'll forever treasure (mainly the oldies getting their dentures). You'll end up looking past the blood that just splashed on your scrubs. I would definitely recommend a dental nursing traineeship to anyone who is interested in dentistry.

**Career Outcomes:** Dental Assistant, Dental Hygiene Assistant, Dental Therapy Assistant, Dental Prosthetist Assistant, Health Advisor, Sterilisation Nurse, Dental Radiographer, Treatment Coordinator, Dental Receptionist.

**What have been the highlights of 2018?** completing Certificate III in Dental Assisting and being accepted to study further dentistry in General Anaesthetic. I am looking forward to completing my studies and hopefully being accepted into Oral Health Therapy - children's dentistry.

