

BELIEVE IN BETTER

START YOUR CAREER IN THE
DIGITAL DENTISTRY
SECTOR

#ChangingLives



WELCOME

Dentists diagnose and treat teeth and mouth problems, and work to prevent dental disease and promote oral health.

Careers in Digital Dentistry

Here are just a few examples of job titles that have been advertised in the South West region within the last year:

- Dental Practitioner
- Dental Technicians
- Private Dentist
- Associate Dentist
- Hospital Dental Care
- Field Dental Nurse
- Community Dental Care
- Dental Receptionist
- Oral Health Practitioner
- Armed Forces Dentistry

Is Digital Dentistry an attractive career?

Take a look at the national employment statistics and earning potential – does it look good to you?

In **2022**, there were **61,361** jobs in Dental industries advertised in the South West region and the sector is predicted to see an **overall increase of 4.4%** across the next few years (2022 – 2025 figures).

Careers in Digital Dentistry

National Average

£36,400

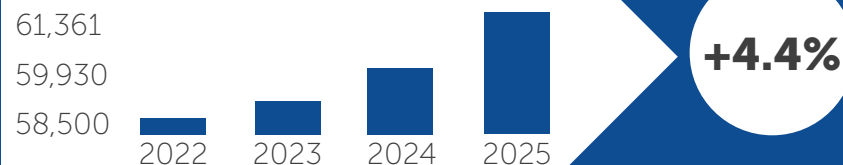
£19,240 — £38,480
Starter Experienced

Which is the same as



**£700
a week**

Employed Nationally



**In the South West
the average salary
for this job is**

£27,040

**The job also has a rising employment rate
of 5.6% by 2025.**

Average salary national for Dental Practitioners is

£36,400

What type of skills and knowledge will you need?

- Knowledge of medicine and dentistry
- Customer service skills
- Physical skills like movement, coordination and dexterity
- Thinking and reasoning skills
- Thorough and pay attention to detail
- Excellent verbal communication skills
- The ability to work well with your hands
- The ability to read English
- Sensitivity and understanding
- To be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device
- Digital skills such as CAD and 3D printing.

What can you expect to do?

- Lead a dental team to diagnose and treat dental problems
- See patients for routine check ups
- Perform treatments like fillings, extractions and fitting dentures and bridges
- Whiten teeth
- Take X-rays and give local anaesthetics
- Refer patients to a dental hygienist or dental therapist

Roles are in high demand for non-patient facing roles such as Dental Technician.

Average salary national for Medical and Dental Technicians is:

£23,920

Working environment

You may need to wear a uniform and protective clothing.

You could work at a dental practice, at a health centre or in an NHS or private hospital.

Career path and progression

As a dentist in general practice, you could go on to become a partner in the practice or set up your own practice.

If you're working in the hospital dental service, you'll be able to follow the same career structure and training pathway as a hospital doctor. You could also specialise, for example, in implant or paediatric dentistry.

You could also serve as a dentist in the armed forces.

As a consultant, you'll often find work opportunities in the private sector.

With experience, you could lead a team, or manage a unit or department.

You could also progress to teaching and training students, trainee dentists and other healthcare professionals.

There are many roles non-patient facing such as Dental Technician, these roles are normally within a lab style of working environment and requires excellent hand skills and advancements will see high need on Digital Skills such as CAD and 3D printing.

Qualification requirement

Level

6

The majority of those employed in this role will hold a BA/BSc degree with honours, degree apprenticeship, graduate diploma, Level 6 NVQ

Apprenticeship options include

Level 3	Dental Nurse (Integrated)
Level 3	Dental Technician
Level 4	Oral Health Practitioner
Level 5	Clinical Dental Technician (Integrated)
Level 5	Dental Technician (Integrated)
Level 5	Clinical Dental Technician (Integrated)
Level 5	Dental Technician (Integrated)

Common study routes include

A Levels	Vocational	T Levels
Biology	Chemistry	Dentistry/ Digital Dentistry
Chemistry	Biology	
Mathematics		
Degree	Clinical Dentistry	

Where do I start?

Wherever your starting point we have course that is right for you and will enable to you to progress with confidence into the industry:

Level 3 Dental Technician -

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/dental-technician-integrated-v1-3>

Level 4 Oral Health Practitioner -

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/oral-health-practitioner-v1-0>

Level 5 Dental Technician

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/dental-technician-integrated-v1-3D>

Level 6 Enhanced Clinical Practitioner (digital skills for dental technicians)

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/enhanced-clinical-practitioner-v1-0>



Michael Wheeler

MSc BEd (Hons) Dip DH Cert Ed

Michael qualified as a Dental Hygienist in the late seventies, spending his early career in the Royal Air Force. In 1997 Michael joined National Health Service holding a variety of management appointments ranging from developing the special care dental service, commissioning dental contracts and more recently was General Manager for Head and Neck services at University Hospitals Bristol which included the management of the Bristol Dental Hospital, the Dental School for the University of Bristol and salaried dental service.

He is a past president of British Society of Dental Hygienists and Therapists and a trustee of the Oral Health Foundation. Currently, Michael is a dental workforce advisor to HEE, programme manager for dental apprenticeships and a dental workforce transformation tutor for HEE South West. In this role, his focus is largely on improving oral health awareness across the wider health and social care professions. He is an Honorary Senior Lecturer at the University of Kent and is one of a small number of dental professionals on the Public Health Advisory Committee of the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence and is an external expert with OFQUAL.

Contact Yeovil College for all the support you may need:



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