



Middlesex  
University  
London

# MIDWIFERY INTERVIEW GUIDE





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## WELCOME

### WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU AT YOUR INTERVIEW SOON.

As a Midwifery candidate, you are required to **prepare your responses to seven topics which will be discussed during your interview.**

You'll find the topics in this guide, as well as our top tips, tools and resources to help you prepare for your Midwifery interview.

### WHAT WILL THE INTERVIEW BE LIKE?

The interview will be a **conversation between you and the panel.** There's no need to be nervous – our panellists will make it as relaxed a process as possible.

It's the perfect opportunity to discuss your prepared answers and **demonstrate how your skills and experience** make you a suitable candidate.

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT LIFE AS A MIDWIFERY STUDENT AT MIDDLESEX::**





## THE SIX C'S AND VALUES OF THE NHS

In your interview, you'll be expected to talk about your personal experiences. But you will also need to show your understanding of **the six C's and the six values of the NHS**.

### THE SIX C'S

There are six C's that all NHS staff are expected to demonstrate when creating a culture of compassionate care:

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1. CARE</b>       | <b>4. COMMUNICATION</b> |
| <b>2. COMPASSION</b> | <b>5. COURAGE</b>       |
| <b>3. COMPETENCE</b> | <b>6. COMMITMENT</b>    |

## THE SIX VALUES

There are six values that all NHS staff are expected to demonstrate:

### 1. WORKING TOGETHER FOR PATIENTS

Patients come first in everything we do.

### 2. RESPECT AND DIGNITY

We value every person – whether patient, their families or carers, or staff – as an individual, respect their aspirations and commitments in life, and seek to understand their priorities, needs, abilities and limits.

### 3. COMMITMENT TO QUALITY OF CARE

We earn the trust placed in us by insisting on quality and striving to get the basics of quality of care – safety, effectiveness and patient experience right every time.

### 4. COMPASSION

We ensure that compassion is central to the care we provide and respond with humanity and kindness to each person's pain, distress, anxiety or need.

### 5. IMPROVING LIVES

We strive to improve health and wellbeing and people's experiences of the NHS.

### 6. EVERYONE COUNTS

We maximise our resources for the benefit of the whole community, and make sure nobody is excluded, discriminated against or left behind.

Find out more on the **NHS website**.

### TOP TIP

Make sure you incorporate the six C's and values of the NHS in your responses.



## INTERVIEW TOPICS

**IN YOUR INTERVIEW, THE PANEL WILL ASK YOU A RANGE OF QUESTIONS ON DIFFERENT TOPICS.**

**YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO DISCUSS THESE TOPICS, SO IT'S IMPORTANT TO PREPARE YOUR RESPONSES IN ADVANCE.**

These topics are:

- 1. How midwives work in the current care system in the UK**
- 2. Reasons for choosing this career**
- 3. Ability to prioritise workload**
- 4. Ability to communicate effectively**
- 5. Understanding of diversity**
- 6. Ability to reflect on life skills and experience**
- 7. Ability to cope effectively in an emotive situation**







## TOPIC 1

### EXPLORE HOW MIDWIVES WORK IN THE CURRENT MATERNITY CARE SYSTEM IN THE UK

- ➔ How do you think midwives provide care?
- ➔ What models of care are available?

Practice your answers here

#### RESEARCH TOOLS

-  Check out the NHS careers website, with guides, quizzes and more.
-  Visit the Royal College of Midwives (RCM) website



## TOPIC 2

### REASONS FOR CHOOSING THIS CAREER

- ➔ Why do you want to become a midwife?
- ➔ What are your reasons for choosing this career?

Practice your answers here

### EXAMPLE

“Both my mother and father are healthcare professionals in the NHS. Growing up in this environment has meant I have seen first-hand the challenges and rewards of working in healthcare, and I greatly admire my parent’s passion, dedication and commitment to their patients.

I would love to follow in their footsteps. I strive to make a positive difference in people’s lives, and believe I could do this as a midwife”



## TOPIC 3

### ABILITY TO PRIORITISE OWN WORKLOAD

- ➔ What examples can you give that demonstrate your time management and organisational skills?
- ➔ Have you been involved in any projects at school/college or in your personal life where you managed yourself and others to achieve a goal?

### RESEARCH TOOLS

 Head to Twitter and join the Midwifery community for the latest updates, news and resources.

Practice your answers here

### EXAMPLE

“ I find the best way to manage my workload is through advanced planning and organising with attention to detail. I am currently studying full time and have a part time job to help fund my studies. By writing a comprehensive to do list, I can prioritise and balance my workload and ensure I remain focused and meet my deadlines.”



## TOPIC 4

### ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY

- ➔ Why do you think having good communication skills is important for a midwife?
- ➔ What examples can you give that demonstrate you have these skills?

Practice your answers here

### EXAMPLE

“

Having worked directly with women during my work experience, I learned that making sure they felt genuinely listened to was just as important as family centred care. As a result, I helped to contribute towards the patient advocacy programme which is being designed to help teach other health professionals those same communication and listening skills.”





## TOPIC 5

### UNDERSTANDING OF DIVERSITY

- ➔ How do you think your understanding of diversity will help you in your approach as a midwife? Why is this important?
- ➔ Make sure that you understand and can explain the terms equality and diversity and how these ideas may need to be applied in the real world of professional practice.

Practice your answers here

### EXAMPLE

“

Whilst currently studying, I have been working within my class as the student representative, where I have been involved with developing and contributing towards the equality and diversity policy that is being created. This has involved creating particular focus groups, collecting data and analysing feedback, and ensuring that all diversity and equality is being fully met throughout the process and ensuring that I am able to address any issues being raised.”



## TOPIC 6

### ABILITY TO REFLECT ON OWN LIFE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- ➔ Have you done any work experience or school/college projects that have helped you develop relevant skills for the role?
- ➔ Are there events in your life that you feel have prepared you for the professional roles that you are aspiring to?

Practice your answers here

### EXAMPLE

“Working with some patients can present unique challenges as you’re dealing with people who are used to being independent and who are now totally reliant on carers. When I was volunteering at a hospital, there was an elderly woman who was known amongst staff to be highly challenging and argumentative. However, I was determined to provide her the best healthcare possible, and ensured I gained her trust by involving her in all aspects of her care. Rather than treating her just as a patient, I did my best to connect with her as an individual. Despite the initial challenge, it was greatly rewarding and she eventually became one of my favourite patients.”



## TOPIC 7

### AN ABILITY TO COPE EFFECTIVELY IN AN EMOTIVE SITUATION

- ➔ Have you ever found yourself in a highly emotive or emotionally challenging situation?
- ➔ How did you manage these feelings in yourself? These situations could be ones where you encountered anger, aggression, grief in yourself or others.

Practice your answers here

### EXAMPLE

“

Last year, my uncle sadly passed away from a long-term illness. I was able to support my family by helping to care for him and keep him as comfortable as possible.

This was an incredibly sad and challenging time for my family, but I was able to keep level-headed and helped wherever I could after he passed with funeral arrangements and supporting my aunt and her children. I believe what happened has strengthened my resolve to help patients and to try and make a positive difference to the families involved.”

## ANY QUESTIONS?

### FINALLY, IF YOU GET ASKED IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS IN THE INTERVIEW, THEN SAY YES!

Having a question can demonstrate your genuine interest in become a Midwifery student. Have a think about those questions before your interview. Here are some ideas:

- Why should I choose to study at Middlesex?
- How can I ensure I am a successful student?
- What specific support is available to help me with my learning?
- How can I start to prepare for my programme?

## FINAL TOP TIPS

- ➔ **PASSION:**  
Demonstrate it! Why do you want to study the subject?
- ➔ **THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE:**  
Show off your knowledge of new policies which might affect changes to the NHS.
- ➔ **HOMEWORK:**  
Make lists of everything each university is looking for in their students – this can help shape your interview answers.
- ➔ **RESEARCH:**  
Make sure you attend open days, taster days, attend subject specific workshops – ask questions and take notes.
- ➔ **READ:**  
Get to know the Midwifery journals such as Practising Midwife, Practicing Student Midwife and British Journal Midwifery.



### ➔ DON'T FORGET...

It doesn't matter if you don't have experience that exactly matches the role you'll be studying for.

These interviews are designed for you to showcase how your past experiences have given you the relevant skills to become a Midwifery student. The panel is interested in your skills and potential, so make sure this comes across!



For further tips, support and advice, head to our website.

# NOTES



**mdx.ac.uk**



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