

**Date: 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

### **Celebrating National ODP Day**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May marks National ODP Day, recognising the important contribution Operating Department Practitioners (ODPs) make to patient care across WUTH.

ODPs are registered allied health professionals regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), providing specialist care for patients undergoing surgery and procedures across the Trust.



ODPs are trained to work across three key areas of perioperative care: anaesthetic support, surgical care and post-operative recovery. They also provide support outside of theatres in areas requiring anaesthetic care, including A&E, Interventional Radiology and Endoscopy.

Many ODPs continue to expand their skills into a range of specialist roles including surgical assisting, surgical care practitioner roles, management, clinical skills education and simulation training.

Within WUTH, there are currently 54 ODPs working across a variety of specialities and services.

To mark National ODP Day, colleagues shared what being an ODP means to them:

“Challenging but rewarding knowing that we make a difference to patients’ lives even though some people don’t know about our profession.”

“The best job you will never have heard of.”

“The super heroes of theatres.”

WUTH is also proud to support the next generation of ODPs through its partnership with Edge Hill University, helping to train the ODPs of the future.