

Weekly Message

Friday 05 April 2019



I was delighted to attend the HSJ Partnership Awards ceremony on behalf of Sussex Community.

It was even better to come away as joint winners of the Best Education award for our work putting patients at the centre of decision-making in the NHS.

I'd like to thank all the Sussex Community staff that made it possible and to say thank you to our partners at Sussex MSK and Here.

The award got me thinking about what it actually means to share decision making with patients. What does it mean when we say that we put patients at the centre of what we do?

I believe that comes down to making sure that our patients and service users are treated as individuals, not as conditions to be managed. It's obvious that our teams here at Sussex Community agree. They put it into action every day.

We do our very best to involve them in discussions and decisions being taken about their care or treatment and we work hard to communicate with them effectively.

This isn't easy and it requires us to focus on continuously improving our services – which we are doing through Our Community Way, our Trust-wide quality improvement programme.

I am proud to work alongside so many colleagues who share the same values and who are striving to deliver excellent care at the heart of the community.

I know we will continue to put our patients at the centre of what we do.

Best wishes,

Mike Jennings
Deputy Chief Executive
Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust

