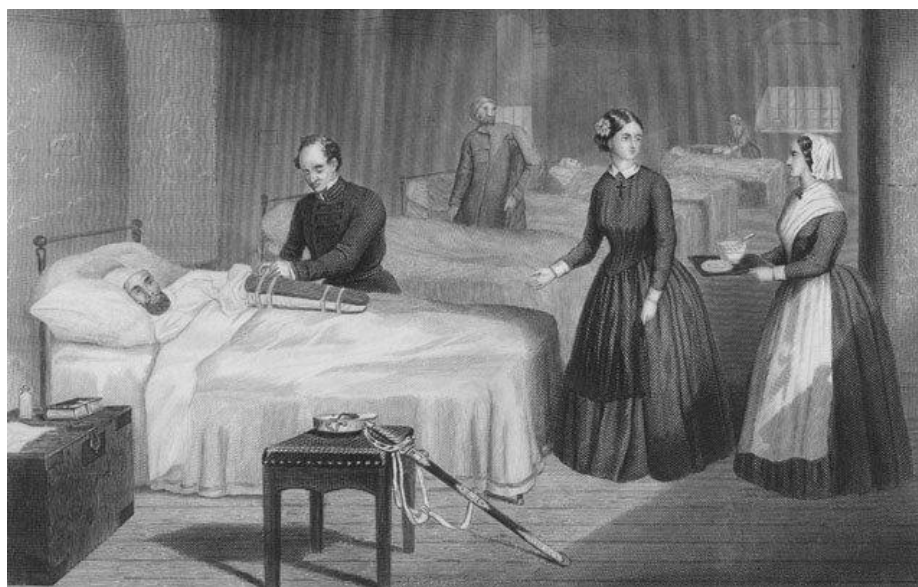


Florence Nightingale

- Florence Nightingale was born on 12th May 1820. She was named after the place of her birth, Florence in Italy but she grew up in England. When she was young she told her parents she wanted to be a nurse when she grew up, but her parents didn't want her to because they thought that poorer people should do that.



- In 1850 Florence trained as a nurse and in 1853 she began running a hospital in London where she improved working conditions and patients care.
- In 1854 Florence was asked to lead a team of nurse's to help the injured soldiers in the Crimea war. While she was there she described it as the kingdom of hell because it was a filthy hospital with many patients dying from diseases like dysentery and cholera.
- Florence knew the only way the soldiers would get better was if the hospital conditions got better, so she organised for the wards to be cleaned and bought better medical equipment.
- At night Florence would visit the soldiers to make sure they were all ok, if the soldiers were unable to write she would write letters for them to send home for their families.
- She always carried a lamp with her at night, this is the reason she is known as The lady with the lamp.



- Florence returned home in 1856 and was famous for all the work she had done, Queen Victoria even wrote to her to say thank you.
- In 1860 she opened the Nightingale School for nurses, which provided excellent training for nurses.
- In the final 40 years of her life she was very ill, most days she spent in bed but people still remembered her for everything she had done.
- In 1907 she was the 1st woman to receive the Order of Merit award given by the Queen.
- Florence died 13th August 1910, but will always be remembered as the founder of modern nursing.
- In March 2020 there have been a number of temporary hospitals built to help with the Covid-19 patients, these hospitals have been named as NHS Nightingale hospitals after Florence Nightingale.

