

**FACULTY OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT MIDWIVES STUDYING AT BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY**

We are delighted that you have chosen to study Midwifery at the School of Health and Social Sciences, Bournemouth University. We feel it is important that you understand what will be expected of you as a student studying for both an academic award and professional qualification in Midwifery. The following, therefore, is designed to provide you with some relevant information:

- ❖ The Programme is based around a 37½ hour (minimum) working week over a 45 week academic year.
- ❖ University weeks generally consist of four taught study days and one student managed study day (SMS). Some weeks may include some practice days.
- ❖ Practice weeks consist of 5 clinical shifts (or equivalent) or 4 clinical shifts (or equivalent) and one study day per week.
- ❖ Theory days are usually taught at the University educational site (either Bournemouth or Portsmouth) but may be based in the student's own clinical practice area within the NHS Trust. Sometimes these theory days may be designated as SMS.
- ❖ During the summer term (when the teaching year is finished) clinical weeks will consist of 5 clinical shifts or the equivalent (37½ hours per week).
- ❖ **Attendance for taught days is mandatory.** If you miss a taught day it is your responsibility to demonstrate how the learning outcomes for the missed sessions will be achieved.
- ❖ Clinical experience is also mandatory and is vital to learning; any time missed due to sickness or other absences must be made up. It is your responsibility to ensure you keep a record of time "missed" and time "made-up" while you are undertaking clinical practice. Failure to do so while in receipt of a NHS Bursary will be considered as 'Fraud' and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, which may lead to you being removed from the course.
- ❖ It is also your responsibility to make sure that the shifts you undertake are recorded on the midwives "off duty rota" on individual clinical wards and practice areas.
- ❖ **Care is offered over a 24 hour period and a 7 day week.** To enable you to get the best experience from practice, you are encouraged to undertake the same shifts as your sign-off mentor. This ensures continuity of teaching and assessing in practice. This means that **you will be expected to undertake clinical shifts at weekends, during the evening and throughout the night.** Although there is some flexibility in the shifts you will be expected to experience the whole range of shifts by the end of the course. Shifts may be short (8 hours) or long (12 hours) days depending on the clinical area.
- ❖ A minimum of 6 weeks night duty should be undertaken during the course. There is an expectation, however, that each student will complete **4 weeks of night duty per year.** Night duty is classed as a rostered shift with a start and end time. On-calls are not classified as night shifts. For reasons of Health and Safety it is essential that you comply with your Trust standards for recording your proposed shifts in advance of them occurring.
- ❖ You are also expected to undertake "on-call" shifts with your midwife where appropriate.

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### Case Loading

Another expectation of the course is student case loading. **Case loading is an integral part of Bournemouth student midwives' experience.** This commences in the second half of the course and will involve you caring for a group of women through the whole continuum of pregnancy and childbirth and being on-call for them as they approach the birth. On-call commitments will be around the time of birth and may be for up to 5 weeks in total. Caseloads may vary in size, based on your circumstances and determined in negotiation with your academic adviser and sign-off mentor. However, every student is expected to care for a caseload of at least three women.

### Good health and good character

In order to successfully complete the course and obtain registration as a midwife, you must also be deemed to be in good health and of good character. Good health is made by a self-declaration at the end of the course. Good character is also a self-declaration, but this will be counter signed by the Lead Midwife for Education who is normally the Professional Lead. She will need to be confident in your capacity to meet the standards of the Regulatory Body, the Nursing and Midwifery Council. You will be required to complete a self-declaration of good character on an annual basis.

**Failure to comply with these expectations will be viewed very seriously and could lead to disciplinary action being taken by Bournemouth University.**

Please log in to myHub and go to the 'My applications' tab and 'What you need to do' (see example below) to confirm that you have read, understood and will adhere to the Terms of Expectation of Student Midwives studying at Bournemouth University laid out in this document.

#### What you need to do

We may ask you for further information to help us process your application. This will be displayed here.

Action	Course	Status	Notes	
Terms of Expectation Student Nurse	BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing	Pending Check	Please read the Terms of Expectation of Student Nurse: <a href="#">Download Form</a> . By clicking Confirm you are agreeing to adhere to the Terms of Expectation.	<input type="button" value="Confirm"/>

Thank you

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