

Principles to support placement provision for students undertaking BSc Nursing – extended practice route.

This information outlines key details relating to the BSc Nursing programme (extended practice route) to provide a framework for placement provision. These principles will support effective placement learning and programme requirements around completion of the practice element of the course. Therefore, any deviation from these principles will be agreed by the Programme Leader and the Practice Partner and conveyed to the relevant placement administrator.

Course details.

- The option of undertaking the Nursing programme with a 'part-time' practice route was introduced from September 2017 intake onwards for students undertaking adult, mental health, children and young person nursing programmes.
- Students identify if this is the route they would want to undertake during the recruitment stage.
- The aim is to offer a route to qualification for prospective students who otherwise would not be able to undertake this programme (e.g. with caring responsibilities / additional employment).
- Students who undertake this route complete the theory element of the programme in the same way as full time students although may have a slightly different plan for submission of course work.
- Students who undertake this route complete reduced placement hours throughout the programme meaning that they undertake a further period of placement at the end of their programme – effectively meaning that their programme is 3 ½ years in length. Also, holidays are usually allocated during school holidays.
- Students will be assessed in the same way as students undertaking the full-time practice route but may have revised submission dates to reflect their part-time placement attendance.
- Students are expected to undertake the equivalent of 4 days of practice instead of the full time equivalent of 5 days. This equates to 28-30 hours a week or up to 60 hours a fortnight while on placement.
- Students undertaking this route are expected to undertake the shift patterns of their allocated placement in the same way as full time practice students are.
- Students undertaking this route are expected to work with key placement personnel as rostered to support their learning in placement and comply with NMC standards.
- Students undertaking this route will fulfil the same placement activity and assessment as students undertaking the full time practice route but over a slightly longer time scale.

Placement responsibilities – student.

- To adhere to the above principles in their placement activity.
- To link with the placement provider upon allocation to agree a standard working pattern for placement.
- To inform the placement administrator of their standard working pattern for that placement so that the placements record system can be adjusted to ensure that accurate record of placement hours is recorded.
- To complete timesheets so that any deviation to standard placement hours is recorded on the placements record system.
- To inform their academic advisor of any deviation from these principles. This will enable the academic advisor to trigger actions to resolve and support effective placement provision (would usually be referral to relevant placement link (University Practice Learning Advisor) / programme lead).

Placement responsibilities – placement provider.

- To work with the student to agree a standard working pattern for the duration of the placement based on a working week of 28-30 hours or 60 hours over a fortnight.
- To inform the student and placement link / Bournemouth University placement link of any challenges to placement provision to enable resolution.
- To provide placement learning and assessment opportunities and support completion of accurate time sheets in line with existing agreements for all students.

Placement responsibilities – Bournemouth University.

- Follow usual allocation arrangement but upon allocation highlight that the student is undertaking the extended practice route and reiterate that any queries can be discussed with the university link person for that area (usually University Practice Learning Advisor but may also include academic advisor / Programme Lead).
- Make available the year plan for students undertaking this route in the same way that the year plan for students undertaking the full time practice route.
- Explore capacity for the number of students undertaking this route as part of placement capacity mapping in collaboration with the placement representatives, e.g. via educational audit.
- Support placement personnel with the implementation of this route to qualification though usual partnership working arrangements including review at relevant partnership forums, inclusion in mentor updating activity and educational audit activity.

Amanda Watson, Head of Practice Education (12.12.18).