

Newsletter for Private, Voluntary, Independent Sector and GP (PVI/GP) Nursing Student Placements

Thank You!

Again, we are extremely grateful to you for supporting our nursing students in practice placement, especially under the challenging circumstances experienced over the last couples of years.

We need more placements

Placements are always in high demand. Are you a deactive placement that is now in a position to start hosting our students again? Maybe you need some clarification on what extra support we can provide for you to become active again. Are you an active placement that could increase your student capacity? Please do contact us at pviplacements@plymouth.ac.uk

Placement Networking Sessions

We are delivering PVI/GP placement networking events via MS Teams during this academic year. New and existing placement staff are welcome to attend. These are taking place on:

Wednesday 16 February 2022: 11am to 12pm -

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Thursday 26 May: 4 to 5pm -

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Halfway Review Sessions for New Placements

These MS Team sessions are aimed at new PVI/GP placements who are hosting their first student allocation. These are taking place on:

Wednesday 2 March: 10 to 11am -

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Tuesday 7 June: 4 to 5pm -

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Training for new Practice Assessors/Supervisors

This training is online on our POPPI website at:

<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/student-life/your-studies/academic-services/poppi/mentor-centre>

CPD Resources

CPD resources for existing Practice Assessors/Supervisors are available on the above webpage, under the *Support, Resources and Development sections*.

What students are allowed/not allowed to do on placement

It is essential that all staff who supervise our nursing students follow our Guidance for the Supervision and Assessment of NMC Nursing Proficiencies for Students of Nursing. This document is available on POPPI at:

https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/uploads/production/document/path/13/13197/FAQs_and_advice_clinical_skills.pdf

COVID Vaccination Clinics

Nursing students who are in placement may exceptionally be permitted to administer COVID vaccinations under direct supervision of a

registrant or trained vaccinator. A legal clause permits this exception to the normal legislation around administration of Patient Group Direction medications: [The Human Medicines \(Coronavirus and Influenza\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/1153/contents/making) They can also undertake other roles in the clinics under appropriate levels of supervision provided they have been trained to do so, following these guidelines:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-protocol-for-covid-19-mrna-vaccine-bnt162b2-pfizerbiontech>

Students on placement during pregnancy

We have received a number of enquiries about management of pregnant students on placement in the context of COVID-19. To confirm that the university follows the current government guidance for pregnant workers. Until recently, this was that they should not continue in public-facing roles after 28 weeks without a workplace risk assessment/ following local policy. Mention of the 28 weeks has now been removed from the government site, and employers are directed to the HSE site (which was reviewed on 31st October). Other risk factors and vaccination status also need to be taken into account. This provides greater flexibility but emphasises the importance of a local risk assessment in collaboration with the individual student, which will therefore be the responsibility of the placement provider.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-pregnant-employees/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-pregnant-employees>

https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/working-safely/protect-people.htm#pregnant_workers

If a decision is made for any students to continue to work in public-facing roles beyond 28 weeks, please ensure that the fact that a risk assessment is in place and is logged with our Compliance Team, via our PVI Team.

The option to undertake simulated hours remains for those students who opt not to/ are unsuitable to continue in practice.

Practice Placement Handbook

The student nursing **Practice Placement Handbook** is now available on POPPI at: https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/uploads/production/document/path/21/21115/SNAM_Nursing_Practice_Handbook_2021-22.pdf

Although this is produced for students, you and your team will find its contents very useful for supporting our nursing students in placement.

Placement Allocation Alerts

If you are one of our 'active' placements, you will now receive notifications of your ugrad nursing student allocations by email, from our PEP Support Team. Their email will ask you to log on to your PEP to see the details of the allocation.

Supervision Requirements

To host a nursing student, your placement needs to be able to meet the following requirement:

Ugrad nursing students need to be supervised at all times in the practice setting – directly or indirectly as appropriate. Anyone supervising students will need to be a registered health/social care professional who has completed our Assessor or Supervisor preparation. A student will still be able to work alongside/shadow other staff (eg.HCAs) as long as this has been assessed as appropriate by the Assessor/Supervisor, and as long as the student is still being supervised directly or indirectly by an Assessor/Supervisor. The student's nominated Practice Assessor cannot simultaneously supervise that student. Please remember that anyone trained as an Assessor can act as a Supervisor for any student whom they are not the named Assessor for.

If you have any other registered Health and Social Care Professionals (i.e. not nurses or midwives) who will be contributing minimally to the supervision of student nurses, and who have not done our supervisor training (eg. GPs, Pharmacists), they are able to do so if they have read and follow the information at:

[https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/uploads/production/document/path/15/15600/Supervision of Students by Health and Social Care Practitioner Information Fact sheet.pdf](https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/uploads/production/document/path/15/15600/Supervision_of_Students_by_Health_and_Social_Care_Practitioner_Information_Fact_sheet.pdf)

(NB – Nursing Associate Students on External Placements have to be under Direct Supervision).

If your student is absent

Students are supposed to report absences to both the placement and the University. If your student does not turn up and has not been in touch with you, please contact them. If you are unable to get hold of them, please contact our central placement admin team so that they can follow this up. They are contactable via email at SNAMHHSPlymouth@plymouth.ac.uk or by calling 01752 5853332.

Ensuring your Placement Profile (PEP) is up to date

Your PEP is your platform to promote your setting to your allocated students. Your designated member(s) of staff for PEP can access this via their username and password. If you have forgotten your password you can request another by emailing pepsupport@plymouth.ac.uk. You should regularly check/update your Learning Environment, Student Introduction, Contacts and Assessor/Supervisor Register sections.

It is important that you let us know if a staff member on your register leaves or retires, so that we can adjust your register accordingly.

Updating placement Contact details

If any of your placement contacts change, please do let us know as soon as you can. This is important so that your PEP is updated, allocated students have correct details and so that we are sending out important placement updates to the right people. Please keep us updated by emailing pviplacements@plymouth.ac.uk

POPPI (Plymouth Online Practice Placement Information)

We would like to draw your attention to POPPI, an invaluable resource for any person involved with supporting students in practice. You do not need to enter any passwords to access the information on POPPI. There is a plethora of useful information available at:

<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/student-life/your-studies/academic-services/placements-and-workbased-learning/poppi>



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