

Practice Learning Team (PLT) Co-ordinators Newsletter



Graduate Nurse Training: Curriculum update

Wendy Percy and Kate O'Leary have been appointed as Practice Learning Co-ordinators for the new curriculum. Kate will be covering the Boston, Grantham and Lincoln areas, whilst Wendy will be liaising with the Nottingham, Mansfield and Derby areas. Please invite either Wendy or Kate to your PLT meetings. Kate and Wendy will be producing Newsletters for dissemination via PLTs and attending PLT meetings. One of the main areas for discussion is which model of mentorship to use. A proposal has been put forward for us to consider students having a named mentor and base for one year, then access additional throughout the year via a learning pathway.

To further explore the possibility of using a learning pathway approach to student placements, PLTs are being asked to map the placements that they are currently using maybe as insight visits for students.

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/nursing/practice/mentors/index.php>

Student Forums

Positive feedback has been received in regard to the student forums, students have feedback how they have benefitted in particular from the opportunity for peer support. Liz Aston has presented the evaluation feedback to the Division of Nursing Executive meeting where it was agreed to increase the numbers of students' forums to include an additional forum in all students second CFP Branch placement. It's anticipated that they will become part of the new curriculum so further development is expected.

Essential Skill Clusters

Regarding the Patient Group Direction ESC on line assessment, this is now ready for use with cohort 08/09, semester 5/6 (September 2010). Course development groups deciding how they would like it implemented. We should be getting direction any time now.

Clare Wilson and colleagues at the Derby Centre have produced a Branch ESC DVD with excellent acting skills and quality of production. Copies are available for all PLT Chairs, please contact Amanda Bamford 0115 8230847 for a copy.

Ongoing Achievement Record

All students from September 2010 will have the new "slimed down" version of the OAR. The main change has been the reduction in numbers of the pages by enabling mentors to sign for a group of outcomes/proficiencies rather than having to sign each one individually.

Student Evaluation of Practice

A task and finish group is to review the on line Student Evaluation of Practice form. This is in light of evaluation feedback received from students, a reduced response rate, and some concerns which have been expressed by Lecturers regarding the SEP process. The revised form and process will be launched in January 2011.

Sign off Mentors

Chris Wheable (Practice Support Teacher) has developed an online package for assessments one and two this will shortly be available. It is also planned to include the package as an add on to the Supporting Practice Learning module for those experienced mentors who feel ready to take on the role.

Derby County Community Practice Learning Team (PLT)

Issue 2. Winter 2010



We are planning to address the increasing number of placements and student support early in the New Year. When possible all students will have at least one visit during their community placement. This could occur at anytime during their allocation, so for example could take place during their district nurse placement or when allocated to one of the allied health professionals. Please note that this does not mean that placements who have concerns about a student's progress, especially in terms of passing the placement, can still contact their PLT educational link at any time. We are all starting to coordinate the visits so that we can best use the time available and therefore the person visiting the student might not be the educational link but one of the other lecturers from the University.

Bad Weather Arrangements



In the current bad weather there will be times when it is not suitable for students to attend placement.

Mentors if you inform students not to come into placement please ask the student to contact allocations to record an authorised study day.

Students will need to make this time up later in their placement.

Audit

The audit of student placements will be starting again shortly. This will be a very busy time in 2011 as many of the audits will be in full.

Can I thank all mentors and placements for their cooperation in this matter.

If you receive the audit paperwork please complete prior to the audit as this saves a considerable period of time.

Changes for Themed Nottingham University Placements

- ❖ A final report from District Nurse placement must be completed on the Students OAR by their mentor. Preliminary and intermediate interviews must be carried out and recorded on your APR and the student must provide evidence in their portfolio for their mentor to be able to write a report that reflects their achievement. The minimum level of achievement is 2 but students are encouraged to always aim for higher and achieving all of them is recommended.
- ❖ No report from Theme Placement is required but the student mentors must carry out and record the student's preliminary and intermediate interviews on their APR. If it is 1 long theme placement both preliminary and intermediate interviews must take place but if it is a mini placement as part of your theme, especially for 1 week, an intermediate interview is not necessary.

Student Evaluation of Placements

A large number of placements received student evaluation in the period up to the end of October 2010.

All evaluations were positive and I would like to congratulate all placements on this achievement.

If you have any issues to discuss or wish further information contact the PLT chair:

Chris Palmer 01332 7224927

Email chris.palmer@nottingham.ac.uk

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS FOR 2011



TBC following consultation with the Group