



Division of Nursing's Uniform/Dress Code Policy

Introduction

The Division of Nursing's policy requires that uniforms should be worn only when undertaking clinical experience in the hospital environment, in the community setting or whilst on escort duty. In some areas the wearing of non-uniform clothing is recognised as being of therapeutic value, particularly in some mental health and learning disability settings. However, it is important to recognise the need to promote a safe and professional image at all times whilst working with staff and service users.

You will be provided with the necessary uniform at the start of your course. You are responsible for the safe custody of your uniform and will be advised of local requirements and laundry facilities. You may be asked to pay a returnable deposit for your uniforms. You must comply with the dress code of the practice placement areas.

Students who have specific cultural dress requirements should discuss their needs with the Common Foundation Programme Leader at their Centre.

General Information

Jewellery	Rings: no rings other than a plain band should be worn. Watches: no wrist watches to be worn with uniform. Earrings: one pair of plain ear studs only. Visible body piercing jewellery should not be worn. No other jewellery should be worn.
Hair	Hair that falls to the collar or below should be tied up. Minimal hair ornamentation may be used.
Perfume/ Aftershave	If worn, this should be discreet.
Nails	Varnish is not permitted. Clean and short.
Tattoos	Inappropriate tattoos i.e. any tattoo with offensive language is deemed offensive must be covered at all times. It is acknowledged that some religions/cultures use henna to decorate their bodies at certain times and this is acceptable.
Name Badges	It is necessary and important to recognise that, as part of a quality service, name badges/ID cards should be worn at all times whilst on duty and kept securely.
Travelling	If uniforms are worn for travelling between home/accommodation and in the practice setting a full length coat must cover the uniform. This should be of a subtle appearance.
Uniforms	In line with infection control procedures, these should be clean at all times.
Female	Black or beige tights, according to local policy. Flat, black leather type shoes (non-suede) with non-slip heels and soles. No open-toed footwear. Pale blue uniform dresses should be knee-length or below. Plain, navy-blue cardigans, jackets or fleeces for outdoor duties only (optional). Pale blue uniform tunics.

Navy-blue uniform trousers.
Dark coloured socks to be worn with navy blue uniform trousers.

Male

Dark coloured socks.
Flat black leather type shoes (non-suede) with non-slip heels and soles. No open-toes.
Pale blue uniform tunics.
Navy uniform trousers.
Plain, navy-blue cardigans, jackets or fleeces for outdoor duties only (optional).

Dress Code

Some areas/departments have their own dress codes. These should be adhered to with regard to the Division of Nursing's Uniform/Dress Code Policy. Clothing should be smart, clean and comfortable to wear, bearing in mind the duties to be undertaken.

Clothing should conform to the Health and Safety at Work Act legislation and the guidelines concerning Moving and Handling within the School of Health Sciences. It is essential to maintain a professional image in areas where uniform is not required to be worn.

Summary

Students are expected to maintain a satisfactory standard of dress in the clinical environment. Students should not wear their University of Nottingham student uniform when they are working as bank/agency nurses. Compliance with the University of Nottingham, Division of Nursing's Uniform/Dress Code Policy is essential to maintain a safe and professional image. Failure to comply with the Policy may result in disciplinary action being taken.

Contacts:

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