



UWE Fact Sheet

Supporting Students in Practice Changes from Sept 2019

The way student nurses, midwives and Trainee Nursing Associates are supported and assessed in practice is currently going through a transition period to meet the new NMC Standards for student supervision and assessment (NMC, 2018).

This means that there will be an introduction of new roles *practice supervisor* and *practice assessor* replacing the role of the mentor. During the transition period the terms:

Mentor/Sign-off Mentor will be phased out and replaced by these new roles, Practice Supervisor/Practice Assessor.

From Sept 2019 the term 'mentor and sign-off mentor' will be replaced for Year 1 nursing students and Trainee Nursing Associates (TNA), Year 2 and 3 nursing students will stay on the current SLiAP (NMC,2008) standards until the end of their programmes. Midwifery programmes will continue with SLiAP (NMC, 2008) standards for until September 2020 when their new programme starts.

Things that will change

- The term mentor will phased out and the traditional role of the mentor will change.
- This is to allow practice learning and support to become the responsibility of every registered practitioner
- The 40% requirements for a student to work with their named mentor will be removed
- The requirement for triennial reviews will be removed
- The ability of other registered professionals to support Nursing and Midwifery students will increase with them becoming practice supervisors

New Roles

Nominated Student Link

- Acts as a key point of contact for Practice Supervisors & Assessors
- Actively addresses students concerns
- And promotes practice learning

Practice Assessor

- Receives feedback from Practice Supervisors & Practice Assessors
- Observes aspects of the students practice
- Undertakes and records summative assessment
- Discusses performance with Academic Assessor, both agreeing progression

Practice Supervisor

- Identifies student learning needs at the beginning of the placement
- Seeks and supports students to access learning opportunities to achieve skills and learning outcomes
- Uses coaching skills to support student development
- Discusses performance with Practice Assessor

Academic Assessor

- This is an HEI role. The Academic Assessor will discuss and agree student progression with the Practice Assessor

Important points

- Preparation will be provided for these new roles as well as transitional support for current mentors
- All universities in our region will be using the same Practice Assessment Document, which is called the South PAD
- It is possible to be both a practice supervisor and a practice assessor – **but not for the same student**

What remains the same?

- Students will remain supernumerary and require the support of a registered practitioners on each shift
- Induction, learning contracts, mid-point (formative) assessment, action plans and summative assessment will continue
- Students will receive continuous feedback to inform their progress
- Registered practitioners will be prepared for their roles in supervising / assessing students and are required to keep these skills up to date
- Academic in Practice and Practice Liaison Midwife roles remain the specialist resource to support learning in practice, practice environment and audit and support incidents.

We recognise that supporting and assessing students in practice happens alongside the delivery of patient care and that managing these often competing demands can be incredibly challenging. Practice Support Net provides advice, guidance and tools to support you in your mentorship role

UWE Practice Support Net

<https://www1.uwe.ac.uk/students/practicesupportnet.aspx>

NMC Standards for Supervision and Assessment (2018)

<https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards-for-education-and-training/standards-for-student-supervision-and-assessment/>