What is Future Nurse Future Midwife (FNFM)?

In May 2018 the NMC published ambitious new education standards to shape the future of nursing and midwifery for future generations. The Chief Nursing Officer, Charlotte McArdle, has asked NIPEC to lead a programme of work to support the DoH in its oversight in introducing the new standards.

The new Future Nurse Future Midwife (FNFM) standards and proficiencies raise the ambition in terms of what’s expected of a nurse and midwife at the point of registration and will give nurses and midwives the knowledge and skills they need to deliver excellent care across a range of settings now and in the future - for the benefit of people, families and communities.

Future Midwife – Consultation

The NMC Future Midwife consultation commenced on the 12th February and will run to 9th May 2019. Click here to view more information and to participate in the consultation.

Work Stream Updates

Curriculum Development Work Stream

Co-Chairs: Heather Finlay Nursing Officer, DoH and Frances Cannon, NIPEC. This work stream aims to ensure that the 2020 Nursing and Midwifery curriculum aligns to NI Strategic Policy and Transformation Agenda.

To date workshops have been organised to provide an opportunity for the professional leads from the different fields of practice to meet with the pre-registration programme leads from the respective Universities to hear first-hand about the 2020 curriculum and ensure the content aligns to the NI Strategic Policy and Transformation agenda. Workshops so far have focused on Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Children’s Nursing with Adult and Midwifery to follow.

Practice Assessment Document Work Stream

Co-Chairs: Dr. Neal Cook, UU and Kathy Fodey, PHA. This workstream aims to develop a regional Practice Assessment Document (PAD) which will be applicable across all the fields of nursing practice and midwifery. Significant work has been progressed in this work-stream which is split into two phases:

Phase 1 – development of a PAD Framework. Following extensive stakeholder engagement a draft NI PAD has been developed which is currently being consulted upon.

Phase 2 – population of the PAD with the NMC standards of proficiency for nurses and midwives – this phase has commenced.

A PAD activity update was shared in January and is available here.

Standards for Student Supervision and Assessment Work Stream

Co-Chairs: Dr Karen McCutcheon, QUB and Clare-Marie Dickson, SEHSCT. This work stream aims to agree a regional model for student supervision and assessment from September 2020.

A workshop with close to 100 participants was held on the 15th January 2019 and sought views on how the new standards for student supervision and assessment could work in practice. Feedback from the participants is helping to inform the model for NI which will replace the SLaIP from 2020.

Practice Placements/Practice Learning Environments Work Stream

Co-Chairs: Lynn Woolsey, SHSCT and Donna Gallagher, OU. This work stream aims to explore how current practice placements could be enhanced and broadened in the context of the new standards.

A workshop was held on the 6th February 2019 to capture key stakeholders’ views on how FNFM might maximise practice learning environments.

1 NMC Future Midwife standards are currently out for consultation which closes 9th May 2019.
Engagement and Communication Work Stream

Co-Chairs: Brendan McGrath, WHSCT (Co-Chair representing the Independent/Primary Care sector is to be confirmed). The aim on this work stream is to deliver effective communication that is accurate, timely, relevant and reliable through a range of formats.

A FNFM Twitter Chat was held on the 24th January 2019 which specifically focused on the development of the NI PAD. Future events will be advised through the FNFM circulation list.

The Future Nurse Future Midwife Professional Officers

Welcome to our new FNFM Professional Officers (PO’s). Through Transformation funding NIPEC supported the HSC Trusts to appoint five FNFM PO’s to the FNFM project. A sixth PO representing the independent/Primary Care sector is yet to be appointed. The PO’s are a vital conduit between the FNFM project and the HSC Trusts. The PO’s will help raise the profile of FNFM within organisations and support local implementation. Each PO is specifically aligned to one of the five work streams of FNFM.

Kerrie McLarnon is a Practice Education Facilitator, NHSCT, and is aligned to the FNFM Curriculum Development work stream.

Sharon Conlan is a Practice Education Facilitator, SHSCT, and is aligned to the FNFM Practice Learning Environment work stream.

Carol McGinn is a Practice Education Facilitator, WHSCT, and is aligned to the FNFM Engagement and Communication work stream.

Joanne Fitzsimons is a Practice Education Facilitator, SEHSCT, and aligned to the FNFM Supervision and Assessment work stream.

Lynn McKeown is a Midwifery Practice Education Facilitator in BHSCT and aligned to the FNFM Practice Assessment Document (PAD) work stream.

Key Changes to be aware of:

- The new proficiencies will apply across all the fields of practice.
- There will be one Northern Ireland Practice Assessment Document which will be used for all the fields of nursing practice and midwifery.
- From 2020 Student Supervision and Assessment will be facilitated by Practice Supervisors, Practice Assessors and Academic Assessors who will receive preparation and be supported in their new role.
- Supporting students becomes everyone’s responsibility as enshrined in The NMC Code (2015)
- The new NMC Education Standards aim to give Approved Education Institutions (AEIs) and practice learning partners, the flexibility to develop creative approaches to education and includes how we identify and manage practice placements

FNFM Workshops

Presentations from recently held workshops are available here.

How do I Keep Updated?

Regular information with updates and links will be circulated to stakeholders and interested persons. If you would like to be included in FNFM communications please send an email to the Programme Administrator Lheanna.Kent@nipec.hscni.net

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