

Northern Ireland Future Nurse Future Midwife Communication Update December 2020

Introduction

This edition provides an update on Future Nurse activity and the preparation for Future Midwife implementation - recognising the recent successful outcome of the Midwifery NMC approval event for Queen's University Belfast (QUB) on the 11th of November 2020. This was a very positive event indicating no conditions and only one minor recommendation. Congratulations to QUB and all partners who were involved in delivering this achievement!



FNFM Transitioning Phase: Northern Ireland Practice Learning Collaborative

The Northern Ireland Practice Learning Collaborative (NIPLC) meets on a monthly basis and is co-chaired by Sharon McRoberts (Assistant Director of Nursing – Regulation, Workforce Planning, Education and Development SEHSCT) and Professor Karen McCutcheon (Director of Education - School of Nursing and Midwifery, QUB). Key areas of responsibility include monitoring the roll out of FNFM Preparation Programmes and Practice Learning Environment (PLE) capacity - updates on this specific information is reported to the Chief Nursing Officer monthly.



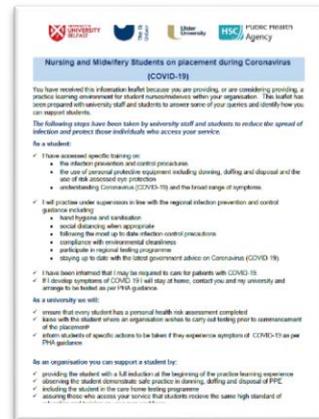
- **FNFM Practice Supervisor/Assessor Preparation Programmes (Nursing)** –To date circa 8000 staff have completed the programmes, the majority of which have been via e-Learning. If you do not already have access to HSC Learning and have a HSCNI email address you should register directly with HSC Learning site [here](#). HSC Learning registration information for Non-HSC Sector/Independent Sector staff is detailed in the relevant section below. A small number of preparation programmes have been delivered via webinars/video platforms and in person (social distanced as appropriate) through Practice Education Teams and Universities.
- **Practice Learning Environments** - Due to the impact of the Covid-19 response and the need to ensure that all students have access to practice placements we ask that managers in all nursing and midwifery settings please consider their ability to take students or to increase the number of students that can be accommodated. The current pressures in the system are very much recognised and we are grateful to everyone involved in the vital work of supporting and facilitating student learning. Please contact your University or Practice Education Team to discuss further.

Today's students are the workforce of the future.

Future Nurse

Electronic Northern Ireland Practice Assessment Document (eNIPAD) – Universities, students and practice partners have been undertaking eNIPAD testing and training to prepare for the eNIPAD undergraduate programme 'go-live' date in January 2021. Development of the eNIPAD for post-registration programmes will commence from spring 2021. Further information on eNIPAD can be accessed through University colleagues or your Practice Education Team.

Non-HSC Sector/Independent Sector – Non-HSC organisations have experienced significant challenges posed by Covid-19. This has had an impact on the ability to facilitate practice learning experiences. Work continues to support this sector to facilitate students in practice including a recently developed leaflet detailing the Covid-19 specific preparation and training that students undertake through their university prior to entering practice, available [here](#). This preparation and training aims to reduce the spread of infection and protects those individuals who access these services.



A range of resources have been developed to support the Non-HSC and Independent Sector, including [FAQ's](#), [guidance for supporting students](#) and a [step by step](#) guide to practice learning environments. Non-HSC/Independent Sector organisations should read the [preparation programmes letter](#) and download the [registration sheet](#) to get free access the HSC Learning platform, which includes access to the FNFM Practice Supervisor/Assessor Preparation Programmes, as well as other HSC training.

Future Midwife

Following the indicated approval of QUB's MSc and BSc Midwifery programmes on the 11th of November 2020, work continues through the Midwifery Expert Reference Group (MERG) and MERG work streams to support full implementation of Future Midwife. The MERG have agreed a [Midwifery SSSA role preparation pathway](#) as an interim arrangement, prior to the Future Midwife preparation resources being finalised. Contact your local Practice Education Team for local delivery arrangements. Full preparation programmes for Future Midwife preparation programmes will be available from Spring 2021.

- **MERG: Midwifery Practice Learning Environments (PLEs)** - This work stream continues to focus on maximising the student's learning experience to ensure they are supported to meet the proficiencies required within the Standards, including Continuity of Midwifery Care and Carer (CoMC). Initiatives are being explored with practice partners which will facilitate Northern Ireland specific CoMC experiences for students.
- **MERG: Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement (MORA)** – There are two MORAs that will be implemented in 2021 – a MSc Midwifery MORA (which will support students undertaking pre-registration midwifery programmes who are already registered nurses) commencing May 2021 and a BSc Midwifery MORA (which will support student undertaking direct entry pre-registration midwifery programmes) commencing September 2021. The MORAs will be available via digital platform (eMORA) and plans for educating and preparing midwives for its use are currently being considered.

FNFM Links for Trust and Non-HSC Organisations

Since the funded roles of the FNFM Professional Officers concluded on the 30th of September, Link people have been identified for HSC Trust and Non-HSC Organisations. Non-HSC Organisations can also link with the Universities as appropriate.



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Non-HSC Organisations

Previous FNFM Communications can be viewed [here](#). If you would like to be included in future FNFM communications please send an email with this request to Lheanna.Kent@nipec.hscni.net

The FNFM Project Manager is Frances Cannon, Senior Professional Officer, NIPEC and can be contacted via Frances.Cannon@nipec.hscni.net

Please also visit us at  <https://www.facebook.com/nipec/> or  @nipec_online

FNFM Website: <http://www.nipec.hscni.net/work-and-projects/stds-of-ed-amq-nurs-mids/future-nurse-future-midwife>

