

**NMC UK Wide Quality Assurance Framework  
PROGRAMME MONITORING REPORT**

<p><b>Programme Provider Name:</b> <i>(Education provider and associated practice placement providers)</i></p>	<p><b>Thames Valley University</b> <b>In partnership with:</b> Ashford and St Peter's Hospital NHS Trust Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Central London Community Healthcare Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust Ealing and Harrow Community Services Ealing Hospital NHS Trust Hammersmith &amp; Fulham Social Services Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Imperial College Healthcare NHS Berkshire East NHS Berkshire West NHS Brent NHS Haringey NHS Hillingdon NHS Hounslow Northwest London Hospitals NHS Trust Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust Royal Brompton &amp; Harefield NHS Foundation Trust West London Mental Health Trust</p>
<p><b>NMC Provider Code:</b></p>	<p>1247</p>
<p><b>Programmes Monitored and clinical focus:</b></p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Pre registration nursing    <input type="checkbox"/> Adult    <input type="checkbox"/> Child  <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health    <input type="checkbox"/> Learning disabilities  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre registration midwifery  <input type="checkbox"/> Specialist community public health nursing  <input type="checkbox"/> HV   <input type="checkbox"/> SN   <input type="checkbox"/> OH   <input type="checkbox"/> FHN  <input type="checkbox"/> Learning &amp; assessment in practice  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mentor    <input type="checkbox"/> Practice teacher    <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher  <input type="checkbox"/> Supervisor of midwives  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return to practice   <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Midwifery  <input type="checkbox"/> Specialist practitioner  <input type="checkbox"/> Adult nursing   <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health   <input type="checkbox"/> Children's nursing  <input type="checkbox"/> Learning disability nurse   <input type="checkbox"/> General practice nurse  <input type="checkbox"/> Community mental health nursing         </p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> Community learning disabilities nursing <input type="checkbox"/> Community children's nursing <input type="checkbox"/> District nursing <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas nurses programme <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas midwives programme <input type="checkbox"/> V100 <input type="checkbox"/> V150 <input type="checkbox"/> V 300
<b>Part of Register Programme/s Lead to:</b>	Nurses part of the register <input type="checkbox"/> RNA <input type="checkbox"/> RNMH <input type="checkbox"/> RNLD <input type="checkbox"/> RNC Midwives part of the register <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RM Specialist community public health nurses part of the register <input type="checkbox"/> RHV <input type="checkbox"/> RSN <input type="checkbox"/> ROH <input type="checkbox"/> RFHN <input type="checkbox"/> RSCP Recorded qualifications <input type="checkbox"/> V100 <input type="checkbox"/> V150 <input type="checkbox"/> V 300 <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Specialist practitioner <input type="checkbox"/> SPA <input type="checkbox"/> SPMH <input type="checkbox"/> SPC <input type="checkbox"/> SPLD <input type="checkbox"/> SPGP <input type="checkbox"/> SCMH <input type="checkbox"/> SCLD <input type="checkbox"/> SPCC <input type="checkbox"/> SPDN Non recordable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mentor <input type="checkbox"/> Practice teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Supervisor of midwives
<b>Managing Reviewer / Reviewer(s):</b>	<b>Managing Reviewer:</b> Shirley Cutts <b>Reviewers:</b> Judith Porch - Midwifery Programmes Joanne Benn - Mentor Programme
<b>Academic Year:</b>	2010/11
<b>Date of Monitoring Event:</b>	1 & 2 March 2011
<b>Date of Report:</b>	9 March 2011

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The School of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare was established in January 2010 as part of the Faculty of Health and Human Sciences. The University is about to be rebranded in April 2011 as University of West London.

There are sufficient appropriately qualified teachers and systems are place to ensure that professional and teaching qualifications are appropriately recorded. Staff development is seen

as a priority and a number of initiatives are in place to encourage research activity and to enhance the personal teacher role.

**These staff development activities are supported by allocated time and are to be commended.**

Admission processes for the pre-registration programmes are robust, ensuring that CRB and occupational health clearances are completed before practice placements are commenced. Students are required to attend an interview day where practice partners participate in the selection process. Return to Practice Midwifery applicants are interviewed in the Trust by a Supervisor of Midwives and a Link Lecturer or the Programme Leader. Systems are in place to ensure that confirmation of occupational health and CRB clearance is received before practice is commenced.

Fitness to Practice procedures are clearly explained in student documentation, with practice partners conversant with and involved in Fitness to Practise panels. Positive results from CRB clearance checks are also referred to this panel. APL systems are in place but are rarely used for the programmes monitored.

Partnership working is strong, particularly at the operational level. Link Lecturers (LL) work closely with Clinical Placement Facilitators (CPF) and Learning Environment Leads (LEL) to deliver mentor updates and ensure the currency of the mentor registers. Audits are completed by the LL and Placement Manager with audit and mentor information being stored on the university's PE Portal which is accessible by students and practice staff at a password protected level.

The mentor programme and mentor updates are delivered in a variety of venues. The content and assessment strategy of the mentor programme ensure that those who complete are well prepared for their role. Mentor updates consist of curriculum information and case studies to facilitate discussion. Updates for those mentoring Return to Practice Midwifery students are designed to include specific information regarding that programme. Midwifery mentors are well prepared for their sign off role with protected time ensured for this role.

**In one mental health trust monthly mentor meetings are held, with mentors expected to attend at least two per year. This good practice is to be commended.**

Mentor records are maintained in both the trusts and the university, with updates to the university system occurring 6 monthly. Records demonstrate up-date status and method of updating, as well as mentor qualification and sign off status. Robust arrangements are in place for triennial review, which is also recorded on the database and is up to date.

Service user involvement is being further enhanced. A multi-professional service user forum is now established and is beginning to identify areas where their contribution can be useful. In all pre-registration programmes, including midwifery, service users already have some involvement and it is intended that a more structured approach will now be taken through the service user forum.

Practitioners are involved in programme developments, working closely with university colleagues in response to student evaluations and in conducting a range of assessments.

Link lecturers are highly visible in practice placements, with most making weekly pre-arranged visits. Students and mentors for all programmes monitored comment on their accessibility, responsiveness and the level of support they provide. On the midwifery programmes they also provide a level of moderation to assessment of practice, whilst on the mentor programme they support the mentor buddies in their assessments.

Commissioners and managers are confident in the skills and abilities of students completing all programmes monitored, seeing them as fit for practice and employable. The Standards of

Proficiency for Midwifery are clearly articulated in the practice learning documentation and are understood by students and mentors. Use of clinical skills facilities provide students with opportunities to practice and gain confidence before entering placements. Drug administration and medicines management is a theme threaded throughout the curriculum with multiple approaches used for learning and assessment, including Authentic World.

Pre-registration students confirm the quality of support they receive from academic and practice staff as excellent.

**One maternity service provider has mentors known as Student Champions in each placement area as a point of contact and extra support for students. This is commended as an effective supportive role.**

Students evaluate their programmes in a variety of ways. Midwifery students evaluate each theoretical module and practice placement. Evaluation of practice takes place online with feedback provided to practice partners, which they can access on line. Midwifery managers attend Programme Boards where student and programme issues are discussed, including evaluations. Annual Reports indicate discussion of student progression and evaluations with evidence of action plans being developed. The exception to this is the RTP Midwifery programme. Areas for change e.g. the length of the teaching day are identified in student evaluations but there was no action plan included to address this, or evidence of any discussion of this issue.

For the mentor programme evaluation takes place on a sessional basis, usually focusing on the content of the programme and student support. Students do not currently engage with the Staff student committee but the level of communication between the university and students is strong and the students feel confident to raise issues through other channels on an ongoing basis.

External examiners are supportive of assessment strategies and processes, with visits to practice having been undertaken for the midwifery programmes.

The university has systems which monitors and approves programme developments, ensuring that professional and academic requirements are met.