

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

<p>Programme Provider Name: <i>(Education provider and associated practice placement providers)</i></p>	<p>Open University In partnership with: East Midlands SHA United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust Lincolnshire Community Health Services Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust, Glenfield Hospital University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust, Loughborough Hospital Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust</p>
<p>NMC Provider Code:</p>	<p>1502</p>
<p>Programmes Monitored and clinical focus:</p>	<p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre registration nursing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health <input type="checkbox"/> Learning disabilities <input 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 & assessment in practice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mentor <input type="checkbox"/> Practice teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Supervisor of midwives <input type="checkbox"/> Return to practice <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing <input 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 <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 </p>

<p>Part of Register Programme/s Lead to:</p>	<p>Nurses part of the register <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RNA <input type="checkbox"/> RNMH <input type="checkbox"/> RNLD <input type="checkbox"/> RNC</p> <p>Midwives part of the register <input type="checkbox"/> RM</p> <p>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</p> <p>Recorded qualifications <input type="checkbox"/> V100 <input type="checkbox"/> V150 <input type="checkbox"/> V 300 <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher</p> <p>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</p> <p>Non recordable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mentor <input type="checkbox"/> Practice teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Supervisor of midwives</p>
<p>Managing Reviewer / Reviewer(s):</p>	<p>Managing Reviewer: Dr Brenda Poulton Reviewers: Karen Hill – Pre registration nursing - Adult Barbara Nugent - Mentorship</p>
<p>Academic Year: Date of Monitoring Event:</p>	<p>2012/13 19 and 20 December 2012</p>
<p>Date of Report:</p>	<p>02 January 2013</p>

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The Department of Nursing at the Open University forms part of the Faculty of Health and Social Care. The Pre registration Nursing Programme combines supported open learning with practice based learning and from September 2012 is only delivered at degree level. The mentorship programme is multi-professional and delivered at academic level 6. Students are located in regions throughout the UK but this review focuses on provision in the East Midlands Region.

Staffing of the Pre-registration Adult Nursing and Mentorship Programmes is made up of two Staff Tutors based in the East Midlands regional office and nursing academics based at Milton Keynes. For the Pre-registration Nursing Diploma Programme Tutors give direct support to a group of students throughout their programme. For the new BSc Pre registration Nursing Programme (PRNP) Practice Tutors are appointed module by module. There is a Module Team Chair and Module Tutor involved in the Mentorship programme. All registrant teachers have qualifications and experience commensurate with their role and hold an NMC recorded teacher qualification. PRNP and mentor students value the constructive and effective relationships developed with their tutors. **The teaching team is commended for their excellent student support and the respectful relationships they forge with students.** PRNP students are based in a core practice area and pre-select their own mentor,

with direction from their line manager. Where possible students try to shadow their mentor's duty roster and are supernumerary in the practice base. Mentorship students choose their own mentor supervisor from their workplace.

PRNP students are commissioned by the East Midlands SHA and sponsored by the Trust within which they work. Entry criteria are rigidly adhered to; interviews take place jointly with service partners; and, NMC criteria for assurance of good health and good character are fulfilled. This year the OU has introduced a new way of involving service users/carers in the PRNP selection process. Applicants are required to submit a short discussion paper relating to a pre determined topic and suitably prepared service users/carers assess the papers and generate an interview question per applicant. **The OU PRNP team is commended for the imaginative way in which they have engaged service users/carers in the selection process.** Mentorship students are nominated by their employers and must have the support of their manager to participate in the programme. There is a robust Fitness to Practise process and evidence that it has been applied. There is recognition for two types of prior learning: *Credit linking* - allowing credits gained from within the OU; and, *Credit transfer* - accrediting prior learning from study outside the OU. For the nursing degree programme the OU has produced a very detailed APL document requiring applicants to map prior learning to the learning outcomes of selected modules. There is no academic APL available for the mentor programme as this is a single module.

There is effective partnership working between the OU, the SHA and partner organisations. This is achieved through the Employer Link Group meetings which are well attended by all employer representatives in the East Midlands. Audits are carried out jointly between the Practice/Programme tutor and partnership organisations. Of the 14 OU students withdrawn from Pilgrim Hospital, last year, 7 have now completed their programme of study and 7 remain. Whilst a change of placement caused short term disruption for the students concerned their learning and progression has not been detrimentally compromised. The project group set up to address clinical governance issues at Pilgrim Hospital has produced a final report and summarised lessons learned. PRNP mentors / sign-off mentors understand the practice assessment process and are aware of the processes to manage an under achieving / failing student. A range of face to face mentor updates is provided by the AEl's in the East Midlands and the OU participates in these sessions. Additionally the OU provides mentor updates through inductions to the part-time pre-registration nursing provision on student entry to and at progression points in the programme. These meetings are mandatory and are entered on the mentor register. All mentor registers are accurate and up to date. The OU has developed a strategy for Service User and Carer Involvement. PRNP students and their mentors meet with Programme Tutors during tripartite meetings at least 3 times per practice module. There is adequate support from the Mentorship Module Tutors who respond well and in good time to any queries from mentor students. Consistency of assessment is discussed at mentor updates and tripartite meetings.

Essential Skills Clusters are embedded and various practice learning experiences reflect EU directives. The Commissioner and Trust partners value the OU PRNP for its flexibility; widening participation; support for career pathway for the health care system; and, facility for employers to 'grow their own' qualified nursing workforce. The programme produces highly motivated and competent practitioners. **Reviewers commend the motivation of students, mentors and teaching staff – very positive, very committed, very patient.** The Mentorship programme is rated by service providers as robust and fit for purpose, producing quality mentors.

The OU has a comprehensive system for student feedback and evaluation with a clear process for disseminating feedback via academic QA systems and sharing with practice partners. External examiners have met with students and mentors in practice.