

5 Dec 2024

Dear colleague

We hope this finds you well. We're getting in touch to share some recent education quality assurance (EdQA) updates. Please cascade this information to your colleagues.

Review of the 2024 Mandatory Exceptional Reports

We are pleased to share that we have now published an Education Quality Assurance Review of the 2024 Mandatory Exceptional Reports. You can view this [here](#).

This follows the request that we sent to all approved education institutions earlier this year seeking assurance that our standards are being met in some key areas: use of simulated practice learning, reflective practice, satellite sites. Our subsequent review of 1,128 pre-registration programmes showed that in most cases our standards in these areas were met but that there was some variance and an additional issue in relation classification of 'breaks' within practice learning time was also highlighted.

We're sharing our anonymised findings and an explanation of the risk-assessed approach we have taken to provide you with greater insight into this work. We're also sharing the learning for us that has come out of this review, which will inform changes we make to strengthen the EdQA function.

Practice learning review

Earlier this year we asked The Nuffield Trust, in partnership with the nursing and midwifery charity Florence Nightingale Foundation, to conduct independent research for our review into nursing and midwifery students' practice learning. [We've now published the report](#) which seeks to understand what contributes to effective practice learning across the UK and internationally.

These findings will be instrumental in helping us to review and improve the student practice learning experience. We will use the findings to help inform recommendations and next steps for the review which we'll bring to our Council for consideration in January 2025.

Advanced practice review

On 14 November, the Florence Nightingale Foundation (FNF) [released a comprehensive study](#) we commissioned as part of our advanced practice review. The report shows that internationally educated professionals struggle to have their expertise recognised, suggesting that regulatory changes could transform the landscape for these nurses and midwives practising at an advanced level.

In January we'll hold a webinar to discuss advanced practice midwifery and how we're considering it as part of our review. You can sign up for:

14 January, 10:00-11:00 - [register here](#), or
21 January, 10:00-11:00 - [register here](#)

Catch up on webinars and correspondence

In October we ran two online sessions with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), our new EdQA service partner. [Watch the recordings here](#). QAA welcome early engagement so please contact them with any queries: nmc@qaa.ac.uk / 01452 557075.

We now publish all general EdQA correspondence on this page too, so that you can easily refer to earlier communications.

Monthly drop in sessions

Finally, we wanted to remind you that we run monthly drop-in sessions for education and standards queries on the first Wednesday of every month, 12.30-13.30. Register to receiving joining details [here](#). Please share the link with your team and practice learning partners.

We hope this has been helpful.

Best wishes,

The EdQA team