

October 2019

Dear practice colleagues,

I would like to introduce myself to those who don't know me. My name is Sarah Weaver and have a background as an ANP and GP Nurse mentor in primary care. I have recently joined the University of Worcester as a Lecturer in Adult Nursing with a specific remit to facilitate learning in practice for nursing students in the primary and independent sector. This in part, continues the work started by Caroline Donley (previous Practice Facilitator).

I will be your first point of contact at Worcester University. I am available for advice whilst Pre-Registration students are out on placement with you and for your general enquiries, troubleshooting and training needs regarding mentoring students. This year will be a big transition for all of us, with the implementation of the new NMC standards of Proficiency for Nurses and a new curriculum. As you know, the NMC Code encourages us all to make the supervision of students a priority; with the hope that we can expose nurses to our speciality early in their careers and attract them back as newly qualified Nurses. I will still be working with GPN mentors, Katie and Tracey and with Nina, to promote practice nursing as a career. I will also be aiming to increase the number of quality placements available, not only for Pre-registration Students, but for trainee Nursing Associates and Return to Practice Nurses as well. If your placement would be keen on hosting additional students from these programmes, please let me know.

The first cohort of students working with the new MYE PAD documentation will be out in practice very soon and we will all be learning together in managing the new assessment and online documentations. Please don't worry, as the system is easy to follow, and the students should guide you. Over the next 12 months, the University will be offering a series of interim practice Supervisor and Assessor update sessions here at the University which are free to attend. We will also be holding a regional update in Hereford, if needed. The interim update will cover the practical aspects of the new NMC standards and the documentation and will be suitable for existing mentors, Practice Assessors and Supervisors alike. For those new to Supervising students, please feel free to attend the Practice Supervisor training which comprises an e-learning update and a half-day face-face session. If you are an experienced mentor who would like a more in-depth refresher, you may like to attend the full Practice Assessor Course. Booking for both can be made via Jo Fleet at the University, [j.fleet@worc.ac.uk](mailto:j.fleet@worc.ac.uk).

Thank you so much for your continued support to our students. I know time is short and staffing pressures and patient numbers are high, but the feedback from students show how much your effort means to their development as the next generation of nurses. Please feel free to contact me with any queries or if you need help supporting student assessment.

Kind Regards

Sarah Weaver

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