



The Department of Health Sciences

Email sent to students November 2018

The Transition Programme

As you will probably know, there are huge changes going on in health education in the UK at the moment and the Department of Health Sciences has been reviewing its options in light of these changes. We have launched a new vision and a plan to reposition ourselves over the coming few years. This offers us a wide range of opportunities to think about what we do and how we do it.

We aim to be a leading higher education provider: offering first-class programmes and an excellent student experience supported by the Department's research strengths and excellent teaching. We aim to produce future leaders in nursing and midwifery and prepare our graduates to explore and take advantage of the huge range of career opportunities within healthcare in both the UK and across the world.

We are currently working on the development, approval and implementation of the new professional education curricula following the changes in Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) standards and the education framework which were published in May 2018. Our new nursing curriculum is being designed and will be implemented for new entrants in 2019 and the new midwifery curriculum will follow in 2021. As well as developing the new professional education curricula, we are looking at opportunities to further develop and enhance all of our programmes.

As part of this we are considering what opportunities the new curriculum can offer to our existing cohorts of students. We have been meeting with students to get feedback about things that work well and things that could be improved. We very much value your opinions and want to hear your views on what works best when it comes to both delivering teaching and learning and the overall student experience you have while at York. We have already completed a department specific student survey and run a focus group around the Programme Learning Outcomes for the new curriculum. We have upcoming discussions planned regarding practice placements and student led support initiatives. These are just some of the ways planned to engage with you as students and there will be many more opportunities over the next 18 months. Please look out for more information about these, as they will offer a unique opportunity for you as students to shape both the future programme structure and content but also your own experiences as existing students.

The programme includes all sorts of areas of work and as we develop the new curriculum, we will aim to play to the strengths of our staff, and consider how we make best use of their skills and expertise.

We want to be a higher education provider of choice for those of you who wish to become excellent nurses and midwives but also for you to gain something more from studying here to support building a career in whatever area you chose. Our research is world renowned, we think this offers us a unique opportunity to offer research-informed teaching of the highest quality. We will be involving research and teaching staff in workshops and discussions as part of the programme to look at how we can make these links effectively.

Practice education will remain a vital element of our nursing and midwifery programmes, and we will build on our strong relationships with our local partners to ensure placements offer a variety of rich learning experiences and opportunities to our students.

We are really keen to engage with students throughout the programme, with involvement through workshops, committees, the Student Staff Forum, Student Voice Email, engagement sessions and in lots of other ways. By being involved, you can do your bit to steer and influence what happens as part of the programme.

The whole programme is subject to an Equality Impact Assessment which has already started. We are looking at the opportunities to promote further inclusion, diversity and equality throughout the department's activities. You might see the impact of this through some of the curriculum content, access to courses, opportunities for staff, policies, governance and quality assurance structures.

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