

Primary Care Workforce & Training Hubs

Student Nurses in General Practice

What is the scheme for Student Nurses in General Practice?

The scheme (formerly known as ATP - Advanced Training Practice) is a Yorkshire-wide initiative funded by Health Education England (HEE) aimed at developing training infrastructure in primary care with a particular focus on increasing the number of undergraduate student nurse placements available in local general practices. By providing placements for student nurses, the aim is to promote practice nursing as a career pathway when in the past it might otherwise have been overlooked by students. This in turn should help to secure an important part of the future primary care workforce. ATP started as a project in 2009 and in 2013 evolved to become the mainstream strategy for the region. HEE widened the scheme through a hub and spoke model whereby 'hub' practices develop links with other local practices to further develop student nurse placement capacity in the area. Hub practices provide support to develop new placements with nurse mentors/assessors in 'spoke' practices. Placements attract an activity tariff for each student week.

The Haxby Group has been involved since 2009 and have found having student nurses a rewarding experience for our staff in terms of their professional development and also in that we have now recruited many of our former students as practice nurses. The students really enjoy it and learn a lot, and it's great for us having them working with our team. Lots of other practices now say the same!

Further information can be found in the links below:

[Student Nurses in General Practice - Training Hub](#)

<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/training-hubs>

If you train GP registrars or medical students, why not train student nurses too?

What are the benefits of being involved?

- ✓ *Great recruitment tool*
- ✓ *Professional development opportunity for staff*
- ✓ *Additional income stream*
- ✓ *Give student nurses the opportunity to experience a quality placement in General Practice*
- ✓ *Help secure the primary care workforce of the future*
- ✓ *Bring enthusiasm and two-way learning into the practice*

What are the requirements of becoming a PCWTH spoke?

To become a spoke PCWTH practice there are a few requirements and steps involved:

1. You need to be a **GP training practice or equivalent** (actively involved in training students from other disciplines e.g. medical students or foundation doctors) and agree to taking a **minimum of two student nurses per year**
2. **Have a nurse assessor** (previously mentor) who is current on the assessor register, or in training/ going to train to be an assessor, and one or more **nurse supervisors** to support the students. Further details about what is involved and available routes can be found below.
3. Complete a **placement profile** and **practice audit** with your local University, on PARE (Practice Assessment Record and Evaluation). We will help with this and can arrange it for you.

What is involved in becoming a Nurse Assessor or Supervisor?

Information about the roles of Assessor and Supervisor can be found on the below links:

[Who can be a practice supervisor? - The Nursing and Midwifery Council](#)

[Who can be a practice assessor? - The Nursing and Midwifery Council](#)

The NMC four-minute animation *Understanding student supervision and assessment* sets out how our SSSA provide the structure and guidance that students need to learn and achieve their goals. It covers the roles of supervisors, academic assessors and practice assessors.

If a nurse has previously been a mentor and has a qualification such as ENB997/998, D32/33, C&G 730, it may be that to become an assessor they will only require an update/transition training. If more support is required we can offer a session shadowing an assessor with a student.

If you have potential supervisors and assessors please email Deb Smith who will be able to advise and help Debra.smith8@nhs.net

Once assessors have been entered onto the register they will need to **keep up-to-date**. The Training Hub hold regular assessor peer group meetings which you can access for support and updates.

A wealth of information and resources can also be found on the university websites:

University of York: <http://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/practice-ed-support/>

University of Hull: <https://www.hull.ac.uk/faculties/fhs/shsw/placement-team>

CU Scarborough: <https://www.coventry.ac.uk/cus/course-structure/hnc-hnd-degree/2021-22/adult-nursing/>

York St John University: <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/placement-providers/nursing-practice-placements/>

How much of the nurse's time does it take to have students?

Student nurse placements are generally 6-14 weeks dependent on the university, and their year. As well as their supervisor, assessor and other members of the nursing team, the student can spend time during their placement with other clinicians or linked community services. Nurses/clinicians don't necessarily need altered appointment times or shortened surgeries, but assessors will need approximately an hour of protected time at the beginning, middle & end of the placement for review with the student.

What can student nurses do on placement?

Student nurses must be supervised at all times but can take part in consultations under supervision once deemed competent by the supervisor/assessor or competent clinician. The list below gives some examples of skills students can be taught and assessed in practice, and perform once the supervisor/assessor or supervising clinician is confident that the student is competent.

Can (with a registered nurse present) do all of the observation and specific clinical skills for chronic illness management and record these findings electronically.
Can administer (with supervision) any drug or vaccine covered by a PSD (i.e. B12, depo) but cannot give any drug or vaccination that is covered by a PGD.
Can (with supervision) do all of the verbal consultation for travel vaccines but cannot give the vaccines.
Can (with supervision) do all of the verbal consultation for childhood vaccines but cannot give the vaccines.
Can (with supervision) do all of the verbal consultation for cervical cytology but cannot perform the procedure.
Can (with supervision) do all of the verbal patient checks and electronic recording for venepuncture but cannot perform the procedure.
Can (with supervision) have opportunity to do wound care
Can (with supervision) have the opportunity to record ECGs

Can have the opportunity to work with other professionals within the practice and local links, i.e: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All members of the nursing and HCA team to see a variety of skills and procedures• Doctors, advanced practitioners, and other clinical staff in the practice• Pharmacy or dispensary staff• Administration and reception teams, to understand the running of GP practice and learn about different areas i.e. budgeting, QOF and enhanced services• Visit other specialties in the community (this could be a swap for a day or two with a student based at another community placement)
Further opportunities within General Practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inter-professional learning on a daily basis• Observing work across all fields of adult, child, learning disabilities, mental health• Acute emergencies that may arise• Simulation and discussion on areas such as death, last offices and talk about how they are managed in Primary care as opposed to secondary care. Areas such as DoLs.• Discussion and practice re: drugs calculation, IVs care and management (but not usually the opportunity to administer or work with secondary care equipment)

How much is the practice paid to take student nurses?

Spoke practices will receive a tariff per student, currently **£3.49 per hour**. This is paid by the Training Hub, who confirm placement details each quarter and then claim from NHSE. Spoke monies will be paid once received by the Training Hub.

What will be expected of us once we become a PCWTH spoke?

1. **Provide a list of PCWTH contacts** and continue to take **at least three nursing students per year** (two if placements are longer than 6 weeks). There is no maximum, you may take as many as you like.
2. **Assessor(s) to maintain updates**, and maintain the placement profile including **annual audit** with the university
3. **Supply quarterly records** of student placement details in order for the hub to claim funds and arrange payment to the spoke (student names, dates and length of placement)
4. **Insurance agreement in place for students** (this is usually covered by your group policy)
5. **Induction pack for learners**, including: practice information, confidentiality and health & safety
6. **Attend quarterly nurse assessor support meetings** hosted by the hub
7. Arrange opportunities for learners to experience **Inter-Professional Learning** (either at the hub practice or within the spoke practice)

What is Inter-Professional Learning (IPL)?

IPL sessions are designed for any type of student or learner to attend with the aim being to explore a wide variety of topics from the different perspectives of all the professions involved. They are informal discussions facilitated by a clinician or often by the students themselves. You are welcome to send any students you may have along to our IPL sessions, the more the merrier! Students generally find the IPLs very insightful, they foster a culture of seeing healthcare issues from different angles, a wider perspective and the various inputs of a multidisciplinary team.

What other schemes might we be interested in?

As the local Primary Care Workforce and Training Hub we also support practices in other workforce and training schemes funded by NHSE. Further details on what's available can be found here:

[Humber and North Yorkshire Schemes Archive - Training Hub](#)

If you would like more information about any of these please just ask, we would be happy to help!

Queries

If you would like any further information or advice we are more than happy to help. If you would like to meet and discuss things in more detail let us know your availability and we would be happy to arrange this.

Our Team and Contact Details:

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<https://yhtraininghubs.co.uk/humber-north-yorkshire/>

