



# **Programme Major Modification report**

# Standards for pre-registration midwifery education (NMC, 2009)

Programme provider:	University of Central Lancashire	
In partnership with: (Associated practice placement providers involved in the delivery of the programme)	Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	
Date of approval:	8 September 2020	
Type of Modification	Major Modification visit	
Provision reviewed:	Registered Midwife – 36M	
Title of current programme:	BSc (Hons) Midwifery	
Title of modified programme if changed:	Not applicable	
Academic level of current programme:	England, Wales, Northern Ireland  Level 5 Level 6 Level 7  SCQF Level 8 Level 9 Level 10  Level 11	
Academic level of modified programme if changed:	England, Wales, Northern Ireland  Level 5 Level 6 Level 7  SCQF Level 8 Level 9 Level 10  Level 11	









Outcome of Approval Panel Meeting	
Outcome:	Programme is recommended to the NMC for approval
Conditions and NMC	Resources
standard(s)/requirement(s) they relate to:	None identified
	Admission and progression
	None identified
	Practice learning
	None identified
	Fitness for practice
	None identified
	Quality assurance
	None identified
Date conditions to be met:	Not applicable
Recommendations and NMC standard(s) /requirement(s) they relate to:	None identified
Note: recommendations will be assessed through the AEI annual self-assessment report	
Date conditions met:	Not applicable
Programme start date:	14 September 2020





## **Summary**

## **Summary of modification request**

The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) (the university) is an approved education institution (AEI) and an established provider of pre-registration midwifery programmes. The current programme was approved on 22 June 2013 against the Standards for pre-registration midwifery education (NMC, 2009). The university has submitted for approval a major modification to the current approved BSc (Hons) midwifery programme which is to deliver the programme at a new satellite site (UCLan Burnley campus). While the start date for the programme is 14 September 2020, students will be taught remotely at the start of the programme, until such time as this modification is approved and physical delivery on the Burnley campus is permitted.

The proposal is to allocate a proportion of the September 2020 cohort of student midwives to this campus from September 2020 whilst still delivering the programme to previous student intakes at the UCLan Preston campus. Recruitment of students to the programme is on a single intake per year basis. The proposal is to split the September 2020 cohort, placing 20 students at the Burnley campus and 40 students at the Preston (main) campus.

The Burnley campus has been developed to serve the needs of people from the local area and to address 'cold spot' areas, where there are lower levels of higher education uptake. Recruiting student midwives from the local area, will increase numbers from the diverse local population, to meet the needs of local childbearing women and their families. Student midwives taught at the Burnley campus will be placed in one NHS trust (the trust), which will further enhance their local knowledge and serve the local population in clinical practice.

The Burnley campus has developed to accommodate 1200 students in September 2020 and is projected to rise to 1750 by 2021/2022. There's a shared building with the local further education (FE) college. Many students who study at FE can and do apply to continue their studies with UCLAN, this has the potential to recruit student midwives onto the three-year programme on the Burnley campus in the future. There are many services at the Burnley campus that are the same as the main campus including, library and information support services, course administration services (CAS), careers service, student's union common room, prayer and reflection room, academic support services and student halls.

The nursing programme has been taught successfully on the Burnley campus for one year. The nursing associate programme is also taught on this site. The campus has large and small classrooms and lecture theatres and can accommodate the increasing number of students. The dean of Burnley campus





confirmed that there'll be further investment into the campus as student numbers continue to increase.

## Feedback from key stakeholders

### **Presenting Team**

The midwifery team assured the panel that robust arrangements are in place to accommodate student midwives on the Burnley campus. The number of academic assessors and link tutors has been increased at the Burnley campus to ensure adequate support for student midwives. Module teams have been established to ensure equity of delivery across both sites.

### Practice learning partners (PLPs) and employers

Discussions with PLPs confirm that they've been involved in consultation and planning of the major modification of the programme from the onset. PLP representatives are fully supportive of student midwives being taught at the Burnley campus. They confirm that relationships between the PLP and AEI are strong, communication is good and support of student midwives in practice from link lecturers is excellent.

#### Students

One second-year student midwife from the short programme based at the Preston campus, and one second-year student nurse (adult field) based at the Burnley campus were in attendance. The students are positive in their opinion for a midwifery cohort of students to study at the Burnley campus. The current nursing student representative praised the facilities and the positive student experience they received at the Burnley campus including the seamless progression they encountered from Burnley College to becoming a university student.

The midwifery student representative expressed the opinion that delivery of midwifery at Burnley will provide a great addition to the sector and confirmed that they would have chosen to undertake their studies in Burnley had the option been available at that time. The student representative provided examples of the benefits such as having tutors based in the trust and fellow students from the locality who have experience of health services available in the area.

### Service users and carers

One maternity service user and one member of Comensus (the university service user group) were in attendance. The service user and carer (SUC) representative expressed support for the proposed delivery of midwifery at the Burnley campus. They tell us that studying closer to home could help make students happier which would likely to be reflected in their care of patients.

### Areas for future monitoring

None identified





### **AEI observations**

The AEI made a single factual observation related to the year of study of the single short programme midwifery student who attended the visit. This has been amended in the report.

### **Outcome recommendation**

This major modification is recommended to the NMC for approval.

### **NMC Standards**

Please refer to NMC standards reference points

Standards for pre-registration midwifery education (NMC, 2009)

<u>The Code: Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses and midwives</u>

<u>QA Framework for nursing, midwifery and nursing associate education</u> (NMC, 2018)

**QA Handbook** 

EU Directive 2005/36/EC Article 41 (1) and Article 31 (6-7)

### Standards for the lead midwife for education

### Standard 1: Appointment of the lead midwife for education

The NMC requires an approved educational institution (AEI) to do the following:

Appoint a lead midwife for education (LME) who is a practising midwife and has a recorded midwifery teaching qualification on the NMC register.

Confirm the appointment of an LME with the NMC

Use the LME for strategic liaison with external agencies such as purchasers of education provision for all matters affecting midwifery education.

### What we found:





No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	
Standard 2: Develop education programn	ment, delivery and management of midwifery nes
The LME shall lead the development, delivery and management of the midwifery education programmes provided by the AEI, ensuring that they comply with the standards established by the NMC.	
What we found:	
The LME is keen to meet the AEI's strategic plans to increase the number of students based at the Burnley campus and to recruit midwifery students from the local area. The LME has led the modification proposal in collaboration with the midwifery teaching team, PLP and senior academics in the university. There are well-established midwifery programmes based at the main campus, placing students at the Burnley campus will encourage local applications to the programme which will enable them to study closer to home. The LME will lead the programmes at both campuses and will have oversight and governance of all students based at Burnley.	
Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	





Standard 3: Signing character	the supporting declaration of good health and good
responsible, at her dis	le 6(1)(a)(ii) of the registration rules, the LME shall be scretion, for signing the supporting declarations of good acter for all midwifery applications to the register.
What we found:	
No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	

Standards for admission to, and continued participation in, pre-registration midwifery programmes

Age of entry

Standard 4:

## **General requirements**

The following requirements for selection should be read and operated alongside programme providers' existing policies and procedures:

### 4.1 Selection





Wherever practicable, the selection process should include a face-to-face meeting.

Programme providers (AEIs and their service partners) are encourage, wherever possible, to involve lay people and midwifery students in the selection process. Depending on local circumstances they may be involved directly or indirectly in selection.

All individuals in the selection process should receive appropriate training, preparation and updating which includes equality and diversity.

Representatives of partner service provider organisations should be directly involved in the selection process.

The views of the individuals directly involved in selecting applicants should be taken into account when making final decisions on whether to accept or reject an applicant.

## 4.2 Literacy and numeracy

AEIs are required to ensure that applicants for pre-registration midwifery education programmes have provided evidence of literacy and numeracy that includes prior achievement of basic skills sufficient to undertake a pre-registration midwifery programme of education to a satisfactory level of attainment.

### 4.3 Good health and good character

Applicants must demonstrate that they have good health and good character sufficient for safe and effective practice as a midwife, on entry to, and for continued participation in, programmes leading to registration with the NMC.

Applicants from overseas must meet the good health and good character as defined for UK applicants and additionally those requirements set out by the UK government for healthcare workers from overseas

### 4.4 Entry to the register

The NMC requires a self-declaration of good health and good character from all those entering the register for the first time. On completion of the midwifery programme the student will submit this self declaration. The declaration is either supported by the LME, whose name has been notified to the Council and who is responsible for midwifery education in the relevant AEI, or by her designated





registered midwife substitute. AEIs must be able to provide evidence of having fulfilled this requirement.

### What we found:

The arrangements for the September 2020 intake are to select students who've already been offered places on the programme to be taught at the Burnley campus based upon where they live. In future, prospective students will be recruited specifically to study at the Burnley campus, drawing from schools and colleges in the local area.

PLPs are involved in recruitment and selection of student midwives. They'll continue to be involved in specific recruitment and selection at the Burnley campus.

From discussions with SUC, they confirm their commitment to participating in selection of midwifery students. Discussions with the presenting team assure us that there's active SUC participation in the selection of midwifery students. Discussion with the Comensus representative, assures us that they already participate in the selection of student nurses on the Burnley campus and can be involved in the same process for midwifery students.

The presenting team confirm that midwifery students participate in the selection of prospective student midwives and that this will continue on the Burnley campus for the next intake in 2021.

Discussions with students and the presenting team confirm that enrolment onto programmes is supported by the CAS which is a university-wide system. There are personnel available at the Burnley campus to assist students with the enrolment process.

The appointment of two midwifery lecturers based at the Burnley campus will ensure that there's adequate teacher provision for the students being taught on this campus. Teachers from the main campus will travel to teach on the programme. Documentary evidence shows that there's parity of timetable content across both campuses. Discussions with the presenting team confirm that the number of academic assessors and link tutors has been increased at the Burnley campus to ensure adequate support for students.

All other elements of this standard are unchanged since original approval on 22 June 2013.





Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards	8 September 2020.
met:	
Revised outcome:	
Standard 5: Interrup programmes	tions to pre-registration midwifery education
Programme providers	must ensure that they have in place processes to manage
interruptions to the stu	udy of programmes for whatever reason.
When a student returns to a programme it is recommended they have a period of orientation appropriate to the length of interruption. Programme providers must ensure that the student's acquired knowledge and skills remain valid, enabling them to achieve the necessary standards required on completion of the course.	
What we found:	
No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	

# Standard 6: Admission with advanced standing

All applicants, other than those registered as a nurse level one (adult), must complete a minimum three years full-time pre-registration midwifery programme of education.





the length of the pre-registration midwifery education programme shall be no less than 18 months full time.

What we found:

No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.

Outcome: Standard met.

Date standards met:

Revised outcome:

Where a student is already registered with the NMC as a nurse level one (adult),

Standard 7: Transfer between approved educational institutions	
It is the responsibility	of AEIs to decide whether or not to accept an application for
transfer.	
What we found:	
No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards	8 September 2020
met:	
Revised outcome:	

Standard 8: Stepping off and stepping on to pre-registration midwifery education programmes





Students can step off a pre-registration midwifery programme of education.	
What we found:	
Discussions with the presenting team assure us that the attrition rate on the midwifery programme is currently very low. With a cohort size of 20 students at the Burnley campus, the programme remains viable if some students withdraw or interrupt their programme.	
Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	
<b>'</b>	
Standards for the structure and nature of pre-registration midwifery programmes	
Standard 9: Academic standard of programme	
Since September 2008 the minimum academic level for entry to the midwives' part of the register for those entering pre-registration midwifery programmes is degree level (NMC Circular 14/2007).	
Scotland – 360 academic credits, 60 of which must be at level nine.	
England, Wales and Northern Ireland – 300 academic credits, 60 of which must be at level H.	
What we found:	
No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met.





Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	
Standard 10: Length	of programme
Article 31(6-7) of EU I programmes in years	Directive 2005/36/EC now describes the length of midwifery , months and hours.
The length of a pre-registration midwifery programme of education should be no less than three years (equivalent to 156 weeks full time) and each year shall contain 45 programmed weeks.	
Three year direct entry programme – 4,600 hours (minimum requirement)	
Where the student is already registered with the NMC as a nurse level one (adult), the length of the pre-registration midwifery programme of education shall not be less than 18 months (equivalent to 78 weeks full time).	
Eighteen-month midwifery programme (following qualification as an adult nurse) – 3,000 hours (minimum requirement).	
What we found:	
No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards	8 September 2020

**Revised outcome:** 

met:





### Standard 11: Student support

Midwife teachers and midwife mentors must meet the NMC's standards to support learning and assessment in practice.

### What we found:

UCLAN adopted the Standards for student supervision and assessment (SSSA) (NMC, 2018) in response to the NMC emergency standards (NMC, 2020).

Two midwifery lecturers have been employed specifically to lead the three-year programme on the Burnley site. There'll be regular teaching from other members of the midwifery team. Documentary evidence shows that there's parity of timetabling across both campuses. Module leaders will continue to lead the modules with support from Burnley-based midwifery teachers.

Marking and moderating is arranged at the beginning of the academic year to ensure fair and objective assessment of students' work on both campuses. The arrangements for submission of assignments is the same across both sites, with electronic submission and feedback. CAS are available at the Burnley campus to assist students with submission if needed.

Documentary evidence shows that case-based learning is a core component of the programme. The presenting team assure us that this will be implemented across both sites, there'll be no differences in this aspect of the programme since it's a fundamental feature of this midwifery programme.

Documentary evidence shows that there are other health related programmes already taught at the Burnley campus and that inter-professional learning (IPL) is a feature of the programme. Discussions with students confirm that IPL does occur on both campuses. Discussions with the presenting team confirm that there are opportunities available for IPL and that the university is actively involved in developments in this area. For example, through the north west practice education group which sought to embed IPL throughout the programmes.

Discussions with the presenting team confirm that there's parity of support for students across both sites. Library and information support services staff, academic learning support, counselling and wellbeing support, and central administration services areas all available at the Burnley campus. Photographic evidence confirms that the library, academic learning support services and





administration services are well-established and are suitably accessible to student midwives.

Documentary evidence shows that there's skills lab provision at the Burnley campus. Discussions with the presenting team assure us that they're in receipt of midwifery specific clinical and simulation equipment, equipping the skills lab for midwifery students. Photographic evidence confirms that classrooms and lecture theatres are of an appropriate size to accommodate student midwives. Photographic evidence confirms that the clinical skills lab is adequately proportioned for skills teaching. The presenting panel confirm that midwifery skills equipment has been delivered.

Discussions with the presenting team confirm that Comensus have a base at the Burnley campus and they can travel from the main site if necessary. The Comensus representative confirms that support is provided for recruitment with an existing well-established link with social work programmes delivered at the Burnley campus. They explain that Comensus has been involved with support to midwifery specifically in the past.

Documentary evidence shows that students will use the virtual learning environment (VLE) to enhance and support learning. The presenting panel confirm that there are technical staff to support students should they have any difficulties.

The university places more student midwives at the trust than in any other PLP. All student midwives taught at the Burnley campus will be placed at the trust, therefore, four midwifery teachers have been allocated to this PLP to support students in clinical practice.

The PLP representative confirms that significant consultation has taken place with the trust around delivery of the midwifery programme at Burnley. Assurance is given that the trust has the capacity to accommodate the students with adequate opportunity to support births at their main birthing suites and satellite birth centres. The PLP representative also confirms that there are adequate numbers of practice supervisors and practice assessors to support student midwives in practice.

Outcome:	Standard met





Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	

Standard 12: Balanc	e between clinical practice and theory
•	8, the practice to theory ratio of each programme is than 50 percent practice and no less than 40 percent
What we found:	
No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	

# **Standard 13: Scope of practice experience**

Where the opportunity is available, students should be involved in supporting women birthing in a variety of settings.

Student midwives must be involved in the care of a small group of women throughout their childbirth experience, including antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care.

### What we found:

No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.





Date standards met:  Revised outcome:  Standard 14: Supernumerary status during clinical placement  Students undertaking pre-registration midwifery education programmes cannot be employed to provide midwifery care during their training – all clinical experience should be education-led with students having supernumerary status for the duration.  What we found:  No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.  UCLAN adopted the SSSA (NMC, 2018) in response to the NMC emergency standards (NMC, 2020).  Outcome: Standard met.  Date standards met:  Revised outcome:						
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met:	Outcome:	Standard met.				
	Date standards	8 September 2020				
Revised outcome:	met:					
	Revised outcome:					

# Standard 15: Assessment strategy





Clinical practice must be graded and be counted as part of the academic award.

All outcomes within a progression point period (for example an academic year) have to be achieved and confirmed within 12 weeks of entering the next academic level. All assessments must be completed and have been passed prior to successful completion of the programme.

A student midwife shall achieve these standards under the supervision of a signoff mentor.

### What we found:

Documentary evidence and discussions with the presenting team confirm that marking and moderating is organised at the beginning of the academic year and is identified to students at the beginning of modules. There's a system of internal moderation and external examiner assessment that ensures fairness and equity across all student group and university campuses.

Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	

Standard 16: Ongoing record of achievement						
An ongoing record of achievement, including comments from mentors, must be passed from one placement to the next to enable judgements to be made on the student's progress.						
What we found:						
No change since original approval on 22 June 2013.						
Outcome:	Standard met.					





Date standards	8 September 2020
met:	
Revised outcome:	

Achieving the NMC	Achieving the NMC standards						
Standard 17: Compe	etencies required to achieve the NMC standards						
to practise safely and	oroficient in all standards by the end of their training in order effectively as a midwife without the need for direct at must demonstrate competence in these standards to enter wife.						
What we found:							
No change since orig	inal approval on 22 June 2013.						
Outcome:	Standard met.						
Date standards met:	8 September 2020						
Revised outcome:							

## NMC Circular 03/2011

## Resources to support programme intentions

Programme providers must provide evidence at programme approval that resources are currently available to support programme intentions.

## What we found:

Discussions with the library and information services representative concluded that there are sufficient resources to support student midwives at Burnley





campus. All ordering is undertaken by specialist librarians based in Preston and texts are made available to all campuses including regular deliveries to each site to supply additional materials as requested. Resources are allocated specifically for students at the Burnley campus and many of the resources are also available electronically. There's an inter-campus loan facility for students who request books from the main campus library. The library and information services representative provided further information to the panel in relation to the library provision at Burnley which includes silent study areas, a range of information and communications technology (ICT) provision, study pods and breakout spaces for group study. They highlight the benefits of the personal service provided to students studying at the Burnley campus.

Discussions with students confirm that they can use the library facilities on the Burnley campus even though they're based at the main campus.

There are new clinical skills teaching facilities on the Burnley campus. Midwifery specific teaching and learning equipment has been purchased and is now in situ in the clinical skills environment.

Outcome:	Standard met.
Date standards met:	8 September 2020
Revised outcome:	

### **Evidence list/key documents**

Care Quality Commission (CQC) Lancashire Teaching Hospital NHS trust, 7 November 2019

CQC East Lancashire NHS trust, 12 February 2019

CQC Southport and Ormskirk NHS foundation trust, 29 November 2019

CQC Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS trust, 7 November 2019

Midwifery programme handbook, undated

Block one timetable, undated

Block two timetable, undated

Block three timetable, undated





Schedule of activities, undated

MW1300 midwife one module handbook, undated

MW1301 women and childbearing module handbook, undated

MW1302 baby and family module handbook, undated

Course plan 2020-2023, undated

Clinical hours Y1 2020-2023, undated

The following images were reviewed, as a physical visit to facilities wasn't possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

Display Victoria Mill five images, 8 September 2020

Burnley midwife, 8 September 2020

Anatomage suite, 8 September 2020

Clinical skills lab, 8 September 2020

Wet labs, 8 September 2020

Laptop loan facilities, 8 September 2020

Library at Princess way, 8 September 2020

Student's union at Princess way, 8 September 2020

The I student support, 8 September 2020

Victoria mill social space, 8 September 2020

UCLan Burnley Victoria Mill, 8 September 2020

Small lecture theatre, 8 September 2020

Large lecture theatre, 8 September 2020

Burnley town centre, 8 September 2020

This is our Burnley YouTube, 8 September 2020

We was assured that the photographic evidence provided in lieu of physical placement visits was contemporary and had been prepared for the modification visit.

### Personnel supporting programme approval

### **Members of Approval Panel**

Executive dean, faculty of health and care (chair)





University review panel member, school of arts and media Head of school of community health and midwifery

## **Programme Presenters**

**LME** 

Course team representatives (two)

Dean of Burnley campus

## Were any practice learning partners/service providers/facilities visited?

PLP representatives (two)

Placement support/student services representative

Service user representative

Comensus representative

Student midwife (short programme) year two

Student nurse (adult field) year two

## **Meetings with others**

Mentors / sign-off mentors	No
Practice teachers	Yes
Service users / Carers	Yes
Practice Education Facilitator	Yes
Director / manager nursing	No
Director / manager midwifery	No
Education commissioners or equivalent	No
Designated Medical Practitioners	N/A
Other (please specify)	





If there were no representatives present during the approval event, please state why: not applicable

# **Meetings with students**

Nursing									
Adult	Year 1		Yea	ar 2		Yea	r 3		Year 4
			one	<b>;</b>					
Mental Health	Year 1		Yea	ar 2		Yea	ır 3		Year 4
Children's	Year 1		Yea	ar 2		Yea	ır 3		Year 4
Learning Disabilities	Year 1		Yea	ar 2		Yea	ır 3		Year 4
Midwifery (3 year)	Year 1	Year 1 Year 2		Yea	ır 3				
Midwifery (18	Year 1		Year 2						
month)			one	;					
SCPHN	HV	S	N		ОН		FH	IN	RPHN
Learning and Assessment in Practice	Mentor			Practice Teacher			Tea		acher
Nurse Prescribing	V100 V150		50			V3(	00		





Specialist Practice	Adult	Mental Health	Children's		
	Learning Disability	General Practice Nursing	Community Mental Health Nursing		
	Community Learning Disabilities Nursing	Community Children's Nursing	District Nursing		

### Additional evidence viewed

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