

Programme Audit/Major Modification report

Programme provider:	Oxford Brookes University
In partnership with: (Associated practice placement providers involved in the delivery of the programme)	Oxford University Hospitals Foundation NHS Trust (OUHT)
Date of review:	24 Jun 2019
Type of Modification	Desktop
Provision reviewed:	Return to Practice Midwifery
Title of current programme:	Return to Practice Midwifery
Title of modified programme if changed:	
Academic level of current programme:	England, Wales, Northern Ireland <input type="checkbox"/> Level 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 7 SCQF <input type="checkbox"/> Level 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 11
Academic level of modified programme if changed:	England, Wales, Northern Ireland <input type="checkbox"/> Level 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 7 SCQF <input type="checkbox"/> Level 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 11
Reviewer:	Sheila Brown

Outcome of Approval Panel Meeting	
Outcome:	Recommended for approval with conditions and recommendations
Conditions and NMC standard(s)/requirement(s) they relate to:	<p>Resources None identified</p> <p>Admission and progression None identified</p> <p>Practice learning Condition one: Documentation is to be provided to confirm practice learning partners (PLPs) involvement in the practice education group to implement the Standards for student supervision and assessment (SSSA) (NMC, 2018). (NMC circular 03/2011)</p> <p>Fitness for practice None identified</p> <p>Quality assurance None identified</p>
Date conditions to be met:	08 Jul 2019
<p>Recommendations and NMC standard(s)/requirement(s) they relate to:</p> <p>Note: recommendations will be assessed through the AEI annual self-assessment report</p>	<p>Recommendation one: The programme development team are advised to engage users of the maternity services at every stage of future programme development and modifications. (NMC circular 03/2011)</p>

Date conditions met:	25 Jun 2019
Programme start date:	08 Sep 2019

Summary

Summary of modification request

The return to practice (RtP) midwifery programme at Oxford Brookes University (OBU) sits within the faculty of health and life sciences. The current programme was approved in May 2012. The faculty presented a major modification to the RtP midwifery programme to transfer from the Standards to support learning and assessment in practice (SLAiP) (NMC, 2008) to the SSSA (NMC, 2018).

There are no changes made to the learning outcomes for the current approved RtP programme. The modification is limited to the process for RtP midwifery students' learning and assessment in midwifery practice. Changes are made to the RtP midwifery practice assessment document (PAD) to reflect the SSSA.

A decision was made by OBU to transfer the RtP midwifery programme in line with the transfer of students on pre-registration midwifery programmes to the SSSA from September 2019.

Documentary evidence and discussion with the programme team through a teleconference confirms their commitment to ensuring that students are provided with a supportive learning environment within theory and practice settings.

There is evidence of consultation about the proposed changes to the RtP midwifery programme with key stakeholders including students, service users, graduates and PLPs.

The major modification to the RtP midwifery programme is recommended to the NMC for approval subject to one condition. One recommendation is made.

Feedback from key stakeholders

Presenting Team

Not applicable as a Desktop review

Mentors, sign-off mentors, practice teachers and employers

Not applicable as a Desktop review

Students

Not applicable as a Desktop review

Service users and carers

Not applicable as a Desktop review

Examples of notable and innovative practice and standards they relate to

None identified

Potential risks to compliance of education standards and standards they relate to

Documentation did not provide evidence of attendance of PLPs in the practice education group: NMC standards implementation group. (Condition one)

Condition one: Documentation is to be provided to confirm PLPs involvement in the practice education group to implement the SSSA (NMC, 2018). (NMC circular 03/2011)

Service user and student representatives do not attend the practice education group/ NMC standards implementation group. The terms of reference for the practice education group suggests that feedback from service users and students will be included in future meetings for programme development to meet the new Standards for return to practice programmes (NMC, 2019). (Recommendation one)

Recommendation one: The programme development team are advised to engage users of the maternity services and students at every stage of future programme development and modifications. (NMC circular 03/2011)

Potential risks to the student learning environment and standards they relate to

None identified

Any other risks to public protection

None identified

Areas for future monitoring

- Student experiences following the implementation of the SSSA.
- The experience of practice supervisors, practice assessors and academic assessors following the implementation of the SSSA.

Outcome recommendation

This modification is recommended to the NMC for approval subject to one condition. One recommendation is made.

NMC Standards

Please refer to [Standards relating to return to practice courses](#) (NMC,2016) and [Revalidation](#) (NMC 2016), which must be read in conjunction with The Code: Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses and midwives, NMC, 2015 and Section one of the Mott MacDonald [QA Handbook](#).

Returning to practice

Programme specific standard: Admission

What we found:

Unchanged since previous approval in May 2012.

Outcome:	Standard met
-----------------	--------------

Date standards met:	
----------------------------	--

Revised outcome:	
-------------------------	--

Return to practice / revalidation and The Code: Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses and midwives, NMC, 2015

Return to practice outcomes must include:

1. an understanding of the influence of health and social care policy relevant to the practice of nursing and midwifery.
2. an understanding of the requirements of legislation, guidelines, codes of practice and policies relevant to the practice of nursing and midwifery.
3. an understanding of the current structure and organisation of care, nationally and locally.

4. an understanding of current issues in nursing and midwifery education and practice.
5. the use of relevant research and literature to inform the practice of nursing and midwifery.
6. the ability to be able to identify and assess need, design and implement interventions and evaluate outcomes in all relevant areas of practice, including the effective delivery of appropriate emergency care.
7. the ability to use appropriate communications, teaching and learning skills.
8. the ability to function effectively in a team and participate in a multi-professional approach to people's care.
9. the ability to identify strengths and weaknesses, acknowledge limitations of competence, and recognise the importance of maintaining and developing professional competence.

What we found:

There are no changes to the learning outcomes of the approved RTP midwifery programme since the approval in May 2012. The change made is to the RtP midwifery PAD to meet the SSSA requirements.

The RtP PAD has been updated to outline the new roles and responsibilities of the practice supervisors, practice assessors and academic assessors and their individual and shared contributions to the assessment and progression of students in accordance with the SSSA standards.

There are locally agreed plans with a collaborative approach between OBU and Oxford University Hospitals Foundation NHS Trust (OUHT) for the preparation and ongoing support for the new roles of practice supervisor, practice assessor and academic assessor. Documentary evidence outlines the transfer arrangements for implementation of the SSSA with clear guidelines for the preparation, support and monitoring of the new roles. There are clear plans for the preparation of current mentors to become practice supervisors and practice assessors. Preparation of academic staff to undertake the role of academic assessors has also been outlined. The documentation confirms that practice assessors and academic assessors must have due regard.

An explanation of the roles and responsibilities of practice supervisor, practice assessor and academic assessor and roles are clarified in the RtP PAD. A process for transferring existing mentors to the practice supervisor and practice assessor roles, by undertaking appropriate preparation, has been developed. Practice supervisors and practice assessors will then 'self declare' that they have met the agreed standards for preparation and competence to undertake their role. Guidance

has also been developed to prepare practice supervisors and practice assessors to support RtP students.

Current mentors will be provided with a three-hour preparation session to transfer to the role of practice supervisor and practice assessor. New practice staff will be provided with seven hours of preparation to undertake the role of practice supervisor and the role of practice assessor.

The nominated person in practice learning areas will allocate a student to work with at least one practice supervisor throughout their practice learning experience. The practice education handbook informs students that they may also work with practice supervisors from other health care professional groups, who may also contribute to their development.

The communication between the practice supervisors, practice and academic assessor will be clearly recorded in the PAD. Documentary evidence and discussion confirms the practice supervisor will not simultaneously be the practice assessor for a student.

The nominated practice support person for RtP students will be the link tutor.

Academic assessors must have evidence of prior learning to demonstrate that they meet the minimum outcomes outlined in the SSSA (R8.1). The academic assessor will work in partnership with the practice assessor and the link tutor. It is clear, from the documentary evidence, that the academic assessor evaluates and confirms student achievement to inform discussion with the practice assessor to evaluate and make recommendations for students' progression and completion.

Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

Programme specific standard: Length and nature of programme

<p>Not less than five days</p> <p>Length and nature determined by education provider and practitioner.</p> <p>Midwives to discuss with lead midwife for education.</p> <p>To take into account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. registration history 2. previous levels of knowledge and experience 3. relevant experience undertaken while out of practice 	
What we found:	
Unchanged since previous approval in May 2012.	
Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

<p>NMC Circular 03/2011 - Resources to support programme intentions</p> <p>Programme providers must provide evidence at programme approval that resources are currently available to support programme intentions.</p>	
What we found:	
<p>Documentary evidence and teleconference discussion confirmed systems, processes and staff resources within the university and PLP organisations are in place to ensure safe and effective coordination and support of practice learning to implement the SSSA. OUHT provided written confirmation via email confirming there are sufficient resources to implement the SSSA.</p> <p>Documentary evidence confirms that PLPs will keep a database of suitably prepared practice assessors, and in some areas practice supervisors will also be included in</p>	

<p>the database.</p> <p>Documentary evidence and discussion during the teleconference confirms that the lead midwife for education (LME) has led the development of the transfer to the SSSA in partnership with the midwifery education team, OBU faculty staff, and PLPs. The midwifery programme lead is the LME designate who has worked closely with the LME. The LME has delegated tasks to the programme lead as LME designate in preparation for the programme lead to become the LME in July 2019.</p> <p>The programme lead has been involved as the LME designate in the joint practice education group. There is evidence that the joint practice education group: NMC standards implementation group has been established to promote partnership working between OBU and PLPs. The terms of reference for the group suggests PLPs are members of the group. However, documentation provided did not evidence attendance of PLPs in the implementation group. (Condition one)</p> <p>Service user and student representatives do not attend the practice education group: NMC standards implementation group. The terms of reference for the practice education group suggests that feedback from service users and students will be included in future meetings for programme development to meet the new Standards for return to practice programmes (NMC, 2019). (Recommendation one)</p> <p>We are assured that OBU and PLPs have resources in place for the transfer to the SSSA.</p>	
Outcome:	Standard not met
<p>The terms of reference for the practice education group: NMC standards implementation group suggests PLPs are members of the group. However, documentation provided did not evidence attendance of PLPs in the implementation group. (Condition one)</p> <p>Condition one: Documentation is to be provided to confirm PLPs involvement in the practice education group to implement the SSSA (NMC, 2018). (NMC circular 03/2011)</p>	
Date standards met:	25 Jun 2019

Revised outcome:	Standard met
<p>Condition one: OBU provided documentary evidence of PLPs involvement in the practice education group: NMC standards implementation group to transfer the RtP midwifery programme to the SSSA. Condition one is now met.</p> <p>Evidence:</p> <p>OBU faculty of health and life sciences practice education group: NMC implementation group meeting minutes, 1 May 2019</p>	

Evidence and references list
<p>NMC programme approval report: return to practice midwifery (RtPM), 25 May 2012</p> <p>OBU midwifery record of major modification request teleconference meeting, 24 June 2019</p> <p>OBU faculty of health and life sciences practice education group: NMC implementation group terms of reference, January 2019</p> <p>OBU midwifery team meeting minutes, 28 February 2019 and 18 March 2019</p> <p>OBU return to practice midwifery, practice education handbook, 2019-20</p> <p>SSSA programme, 17 May 2018</p> <p>OBU RtP midwifery PAD, 2018-19</p> <p>OBU RtP midwifery SSSA PAD, undated</p> <p>OBU midwifery RTP practice education handbook, 2019-20</p> <p>OBU key information for practice supervisors, January 2019</p> <p>OBU presentation for practice supervisors and practice assessors transition, 22 January 2019</p> <p>OBU Practice assessor preparation, responsibilities and maintenance of competence, January 2019</p> <p>OBU practice supervisor preparation, responsibilities and maintenance of competence, January 2019</p> <p>OBU midwifery programmes periodic review self-evaluation document, 2018</p> <p>OBU faculty of health and life sciences practice education group: NMC implementation group terms of reference, January 2019</p>

OBU faculty of health and life sciences practice education group: NMC
implementation group meeting minutes, 1 May 2019

Personnel supporting programme approval

Members of Approval Panel

Not applicable as a Desktop review

Programme Presenters

The QA visitor had a teleconference on 24 June 2019 with:

- OBU, programme lead, midwifery
- OBU, principal lecturer quality assurance and NMC official correspondent

Were any service providers visited?

Not applicable, Desktop review.

Meetings with others

Mentors / sign-off mentors	
Practice teachers	
Service users / Carers	
Practice Education Facilitator	
Director / manager nursing	
Director / manager midwifery	
Education commissioners or equivalent	
Designated Medical Practitioners	
Other (please specify)	

If there were no representatives present during the approval event please state why:

Not applicable as a Desktop review.

Meetings with students

Nursing					
Adult		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Mental Health		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Children's		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Learning Disabilities		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Midwifery (3 year)		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	
Midwifery (18 month)		Year 1	Year 2		
SCPHN		HV	SN	OH	FHN
Learning and Assessment in Practice		Mentor		Practice Teacher	Teacher
Nurse Prescribing		V100	V150	V300	
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				
No additional evidence				

Mott MacDonald Group Disclaimer

This document is issued for the party which commissioned it and for specific purposes connected with the captioned project only. It should not be relied upon by any other party or used for any other purpose.

We accept no responsibility for the consequences of this document being relied upon by any other party, or being used for any other purpose, or containing any error or omission which is due to an error or omission in data supplied to us by other parties.

Issue record

Author:	Sheila Brown	Date:	11 Aug 2019
Checked by:	Judith Porch	Date:	13 Aug 2019
Approved by:	Helen Shapcott	Date:	14 Aug 2019