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ur Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education applies to all Approved Education Institutions (AEIs) and heir practice learning partners that are running NMC approved programmes.

rticle 15(1) of the Nursing and Midwifery Order 2001 ('the Order')[2] requires the Council to establish standards for ducation and training which are necessary to achieve the standards of proficiency for admission to the register, as equired by Article 5(2) of the Order. The Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education is established nder the provision of Article 15(1) of the Order.

hese standards aim to provide AEIs and practice learning partners with the flexibility to develop innovative approaches o all education for nurses, midwives and nursing associates, while being accountable for the local delivery and anagement of approved programmes in line with our standards. Pre-registration nursing and midwifery programmes nd post-registration programmes may offer various academic and flexible routes to registration and annotation when eeking approval in line with our standards.

hese standards should be read with the Standards for student supervision and assessment, and the programme tandards which are specific for each pre-registration and post-registration educational programme. Together these are he NMC standards for education and training for the nursing and midwifery professions. Education institutions must be pproved against these standards to run any NMC approved programmes.

EIs are responsible for working with practice learning partners to manage the quality of their educational programmes. verall responsibility for the day-to-day management of the quality of any educational programme lies with an AEI in artnership with practice learning partners who provide opportunities for practice experience to nursing and midwifery tudents. Before a programme can be run, an approval process takes place through which we check that the proposed rogramme meets our standards.

ublic safety is central to our standards. Students will be in contact with people throughout their education and it's mportant that they learn in a safe and effective way.

hrough our quality assurance processes we check that education programmes meet our standards, and that ducation institutions and practice learning partners are managing risks effectively. Using internal and external ntelligence we monitor risks to quality in education and training; this intelligence gathering includes analysis of system egulator reports.

pproved education providers are monitored and we have processes for collecting, analysing and responding to any isk intelligence we receive regarding educational programmes, including concerns raised with us directly by students. pproved education providers are also required to self-report any risks or concerns that could affect the quality of rogramme delivery and, therefore, public protection.

e strongly encourage people to take part in quality assurance events, where they will be asked to share experiences f nurse and midwifery education and suggest improvements.

EIs must seek permission for approval for programme endorsement for programmes approved in the UK, to be elivered in a specified location outside the UK. This must be done in line with the NMC quality assurance framework.

ur Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education is set out under the following five headings:

. Learning culture

e will only approve programmes where the learning culture is ethical, open and honest, is conducive to safe and ffective learning that respects the principles of equality and diversity, and where innovation, inter-professional learning nd team working are embedded

2. Educational governance and quality

e expect education providers to comply with all legal and regulatory requirements

3. Student empowerment

We want students to be empowered and provided with the learning opportunities they need to achieve the desired proficiencies and programme outcomes

4. Educators and assessors

We will seek assurance that those who support, supervise and assess students are suitably qualified, prepared and skilled, and receive the necessary support for their role

5. Curricula and assessment

We set standards for curricula and assessment that enable students to achieve the outcomes required to practise safely and effectively in their chosen area

We use these standards to assess the safety and effectiveness of all learning environments.

2 SI 2002/253
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