

**EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT MIDWIVES STUDYING AT BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY**

* The programme is based around a 37.5 hour (minimum) working week over a 45 week academic year.
* University weeks generally consist of four taught study days and one student managed study days (SMS). Some weeks may include some practice days.
* Practice weeks consist of 5 clinical shifts (or equivalent) or 4 clinical shifts (or equivalent) and one study day per week.
* Theory days are usually taught at the University educational site (either Bournemouth or Portsmouth) but may be based in the student’s own clinical practice area within the NHS Trust. Sometimes these theory days may be designated as SMS.
* During the summer term (when the teaching year is finished) clinical weeks will consist of 5 clinical shifts or the equivalent (37.5 hours per week).
* **Attendance for taught days is mandatory**. If you miss a taught day it is your responsibility to demonstrate how the learning outcomes for the missed sessions will be achieved.
* Clinical experience is also mandatory and is vital to learning; any time missed due to sickness or other absences must be made up. It is your responsibility to ensure you keep a record of time “missed” and time “made-up” while you are undertaking clinical practice. Failure to do so while in receipt of a NHS Bursary will be considered as ‘Fraud’ and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, which may lead you to being removed from the programme.
* It is also your responsibility to make sure that the shifts you undertake are recorded on the midwives “off duty rota” on individual clinical wards and practice areas.
* **Care is offered over a 24 hour period and a 7 day week.** To enable you to get the best experience from practice, you are encouraged to undertake the same shifts as your sign-off mentor. This ensures continuity of teaching and assessing in practice. This means that **you will be expected to undertake clinical shifts at weekends, during the evening and throughout the night.** Although there is some flexibility in the shifts you will be expected to experience the whole range of shifts by the end of the programme. Shifts may be short (8 hours) or long (12 hours) days depending on the clinical area.
* A minimum of 6 weeks night duty should be undertaken during the course. There is an expectation, however, that each student will complete **4 weeks of night duty per year**. Night duty is classed as a rostered shift with a start and end time. On-calls are not classified as night shifts. For reasons of Health and Safety it is essential that you comply with your Trust standards for recording your proposed shifts in advance of them occurring
* You are also expected to undertake “on-call” shifts with your midwife where appropriate.

**Case Loading:**

Another expectation of the programme is student case-loading. This commences in the second half of the programme and will involve you being on call for women who you have chosen to be part of their caseload. Caseloads may vary in size, and will be based on your circumstances in negotiation with your academic advisor. **This is an integral part of the Bournemouth student midwives experience** and everyone will be expected to undertake at least three cases. On call commitments for caseloads will be around the time of birth and may be for up to 5 weeks in total.

**Good health and good character:**

In order to successfully complete the course and obtain registration as a midwife, the student must also be deemed to be in good health and of good character. Good health is made by a self-declaration at the end of the course. Good character is also a self-declaration, but this will be counter signed by the Lead Midwife for Education who is normally the Professional Lead. She will need to be confident in the student’s capacity to meet the standards of the Regulatory Body, the Nursing and Midwifery Council. Students will be required to complete self-declaration of good character on an annual basis

**Failure to comply with these expectations will be viewed very seriously and could lead to disciplinary action being taken by the Bournemouth University.**

**I accept the expectations laid out in this document**

**Signed**

**[ ]  Please tick the box confirming all information supplied is true, accurate and complete.**

**Name (please print)**

**……………………………………………………………………………………………..**

**Date**

**………………………………………………………........................................................................**

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