PRE-REGISTRATION NURSING PROGRAMME LEARNING DISABILITIES
NURSING FIELD

LEARNING LOG FOR MEETING ESSENTIAL CARE NEEDS AND
DEMONSTRATING EXPERIENCE OF WORKING WITH THE ALTERNATIVE
CLIENT GROUPS

The following information is taken from the NMC Advice and supporting
information for implementing the NMC standards for pre-registration nursing
education (NMC, March 2011, p43-55).

Background:
All students irrespective of their field of practice are expected “to be able to meet the
essential care needs of all people and the essential and complex needs of service
users, carers and populations within their specific field of nursing practice, at the
point of registration” (NMC, 2011, p 43). Your programme has been designed to
provide you with learning opportunities which will enable you to meet these
expectations.

In order to help you understand the NMC’s expectations the guidance they have
provided to illustrate examples of what might be “considered important when
assessing or delivering essential care that may not have been associated” with your
field of practice in the past is included below. You can access the full document
using the following link:

http://standards.nmc-uk.org/PreRegNursing/non-statutory/Pages/supporting-advice.aspx

Logging Experiences:
As part of the programme you are required to log specific learning experiences which
demonstrate development towards meeting these expectations. Some of your
learning will take place in the University and some within practice environments.
Within the practice environment you must log at least 37.5hrs with each of the
alternative client groups – Children’s, Mental Health and Adult Nursing. In order to
do this you must initially discuss your learning needs and negotiate learning
objectives with your Practice Mentor/supervisor. Where learning takes place in
“spoke” placement experiences the record of learning for these which is included in
your portfolio documentation and timesheets must be completed. When recording
learning and completing the Learning Log you must ensure that you maintain
confidentiality and anonymity at all times and that you adhere to the School of Health
& Social Care’s procedures for obtaining informed consent. Your mentor/supervisor
must verify and counter sign your logged learning and hours.

The Learning Log must be presented at your final tripartite each year. It is also
essential evidence for the final year practice portfolio.
LEARNING DISABILITIES FIELD

People with Mental Health needs

- Use basic mental health skills to reduce the distress associated with mental health problems and to promote recovery.
- Act promptly to reduce the risk of harm in a crisis and to protect people who are vulnerable.
- Have a basic understanding of mental health promotion, the links between physical and mental health problems and the aetiology and treatment of common mental health problems.
- Appreciate the impact of mental health problems and distress on a person’s cognition, communication, behaviour, lifestyle and relationships.
- Be aware of the main provisions of mental health legislation, especially in relating to capacity, human rights and safeguarding.
- Recognise and address people’s essential mental health needs when these exist alongside other primary health needs.
- Work and communicate with others to maintain continuity in meeting mental health needs in long term conditions.

Needs of Children and Young People

- Have a broad understanding of the development of children and young people within the family context and how this affects their individual needs, health, behaviour and communication.
- Work with children, young people, their families and others to provide family-centred care.
- Understand common physical and mental health problems associated with childhood and adolescence, their effects and treatment.
- Deliver basic care required to meet essential needs.
- Recognise deterioration and provide safe care to infants, children and young people in an emergency, or act to protect them where there is risk of harm, prior to referral or when accessing specialist services (this evidence will be provided from simulation and contact-based learning within the University).
- Learning disabilities and mental health nurses should also be able to meet the specific needs of children, understanding the connection between childhood and adolescence and their learning disability or mental health problem.

People with Common Physical Needs

- Recognise common physical health conditions of children, adults and older people who come into their care.
- Care for someone who becomes acutely physically ill or is injured.
- Make a baseline physical health assessment, monitor their condition, and recognise and respond to any deterioration.
- Provide safe immediate physical care, treatment or first aid and obtain emergency help where needed.
- Use direct care skills to meet basic and complex physical needs which exist alongside a primary mental health problem or learning disability, including those requiring long-term or palliative care. This includes help with breathing,
positioning, mobility, hygiene, temperature control, fluid maintenance, nutrition and elimination.

- Safely use medical devices to assess and provide physical care or treatment, including those for moving and positioning, infection prevention and control, feeding, maintaining hydration, elimination, managing pain, wound care, and safe administration of medicinal products.
- Seek expert advice or support where needed to ensure ongoing safe, effective and evidence based care or when accessing specialist services.
### LEARNING LOG FOR MEETING ESSENTIAL CARE NEEDS AND DEMONSTRATING EXPERIENCE OF WORKING WITH THE ALTERNATIVE CLIENT GROUPS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please identify the experience under one of the following headings:</th>
<th>Date and duration in hours</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Learning</th>
<th>Signature of student:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Needs of children and young people</td>
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<td>People with mental health needs</td>
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| Date: .......... |
| Name of practitioner verifying the learning experience |
| Practitioners signature: |
| Designation |
| Date .......... |

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