

Scottish Cluster Dietetic Placements

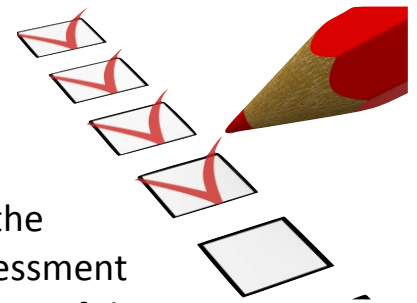
www.rgu.ac.uk/dietetic-placements-scotland



Dietetic Practice Education Update

*Sharing developments and best practice with
those involved in Scottish dietetic education*

Practice Educator Evaluation of Placement A



Following the review of dietetic practice based education and the introduction of new learning outcomes, competencies and assessment tools in Scotland in 2016 we are beginning the evaluation process of the changes that have been made. We are starting with the evaluation of placement A (placements B and C will be evaluated in due course) and will be surveying both students and Practice Educators. We would be grateful if staff involved in the delivery of placement A would take a few minutes to complete the online evaluation which can be found at this link: <https://qmu.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/placement-a-evaluation-practice-educators>

We welcome comments from individuals and/or departments so we would be grateful if you would circulate the link widely within your teams. The survey should only take 10-15 minutes to complete and does not have to be completed all at the same time. You can go back to the survey by clicking on 'finish later'. The survey will be open until midnight on Sunday 14th August and the feedback we receive will be used to inform the placement cycle for next year

Many thanks for taking sharing the survey with colleagues and for taking the time to provide feedback

Placement Demand 2017

Placement type	Weeks	Comments
A placement	160	Includes 4 weeks for 2 x students who previously deferred studies.
B placement	924	Includes 48 weeks for 4 x students who previously deferred studies; 12 weeks for 1 x student not progressing as expected and 12 weeks for 1 x student requiring extended weeks
C placements	948	Includes 48 weeks for 4 x students who previously deferred studies; 12 weeks for 1 x student not progressing as expected; 36 weeks for 3 x students requiring extended weeks and 24 weeks for 2 x students displaced from their originally allocated 2016 placements.
TOTAL	2032	4 weeks less than 2016 demand

The 2016 placement cycle saw a higher than usual number of placements being cancelled/withdrawn by Practice Providers. This has therefore had a direct effect on placement demand for 2017.

Practice Placement supply requests will be sent to Lead Practice Educators at the beginning of July 2016 with a request that supply offers be returned to Pamela Knox, Scottish Dietetic Placement Administrator, by the end of August 2016.

Please note that for 2017, Health Boards have again been given guidance on the number and type of placements required and the timing that placements are required. It is hoped that by doing this, fewer requests will be made to Health Boards to change the timing of the offers made.

Lead Practice Educators will then be informed of all 2017 allocations by the end of October 2016 at the latest.

Implementation and Evaluation Timescales

This is just a reminder of the timescales for the piloting of the revised placement model, and the planned evaluation periods.

Placement	'Pilot' cohorts	Reflect and revise
A	January & Summer 2016	August 2016
B	April, July & September 2016	November 2016 - April 2017
C	July & October 2016	April - July 2017

Please remember that students accessing B and C placements in 2016 will not have undertaken the new Placement A tasks and activities.

We'd Like Your Feedback

Have you been delivering a placement or using the new portfolios and come across a task that needs a little more explanation, or perhaps an annoying spelling error? We'd like to hear from you.

We have set up a dedicated email address to enable you to 'post' your observations, comments, suggested changes etc. to the placement documentation and tasks. These should not be specific to any students that you host on placement, but should relate to the placement materials that have been under review. The email address is acting as a repository for all information until the review stage of each placement. At this point, we will collate the information and identify what actions, if any, should be taken for the following year placement cycle.

You will receive an automatic reply to confirm that your email has been received. Please feel free to send your comments, ideas or changes periodically as and when they arise, or alternatively you can leave these to send in one large email. You are welcome to circulate the email address to departmental colleagues or students so that they can contribute too. The email address is:

PlacementReview@rgu.ac.uk

Student Progression 2016

The universities collect data on student progression through practice placements. Data below relates to the 2015 placement cycle

Placement A

70 students proceeded to and completed placement A.

Placement B

Of the 70 students who were allocated a B placement one student transferred to another course. All other students progressed after the normal 12 week placement.

Placement C

Of the 71 students who proceeded to placement C, six students failed to successfully complete within the 12 weeks allocation. Of these students two were required to repeat the placement and four were required to undertake additional weeks. One student has successfully repeated their placement, and another student has been successful in her additional time. The remaining students are still to be allocated the additional time they require.

In addition to the information above data is also collected regarding location of placement, location of additional weeks or repeat placement, number of additional weeks required by the student and outcome of those additional weeks, length of time between placements, and location of previous placements. Each Health Board area can access data relevant to their health board area. If you wish this information please contact either your link HEI or Jacklyn Jones (Lead for approval and monitoring).



Website

The Scottish Cluster Dietetic Placements website is continuing to be updated with the new documentation that has been developed for placements.

Following the evaluation periods, we will be updating the portfolio's and any other relevant documentation, so please do refer to the website for the most recent versions.

Since our newsletter is only produced twice per year, the website is also the location to find out about upcoming Practice Educator Training. New dates for 2016-2017 will likely be released in September.

Call for Contributions

We hope you are enjoying our newsletter. Periodically, we include 'guest' articles. Do you have any news or best practice regarding practice-based learning that you would like to share with your Dietetic colleagues? If you would like to contribute anything, please contact us via the feedback form on the Scottish Cluster Dietetic Placement website.

University Operational Group: Who are we?

Many of you will be familiar with some of the dietetic staff at the Universities. Below you will find out about who sits on the University Operational Group and what roles we undertake within this committee.



Heather Donald is a lecturer at Robert Gordon University. She is responsible for the website and keeping it up-to-date.



Jacklyn Jones is the Postgraduate Programme Leader at Queen Margaret University. She takes the lead role for Approval and Monitoring of placements.



Emma Kinrade is the Postgraduate Programme Organiser and lecturer at Glasgow Caledonian University.



Pamela Knox is the Scottish Dietetic Placements Allocation Officer, based at Queen Margaret University.



Susan Lennie is the Programme Leader at Robert Gordon University. She has been leading on the review of placement learning outcomes and resources.



Myra Mackenzie is a lecturer at Robert Gordon University. She takes the lead for monitoring student placement evaluations.



Christine Monaghan is the Clinical Placement tutor at Glasgow Caledonian University. She is the current Lead for the Operational Group.



Sara Smith is the Undergraduate Programme Leader at Queen Margaret University. She liaises with the allocation officer and links with the BDA on issues such as the Curriculum.

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