

SPRING NEWSLETTER

NEWCASTLE VOCATIONAL STUDIES

PLACEMENT OFFICERS

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Education & Early Years
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Healthcare
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PLACEMENT OVERVIEW

SUPPORTING EDUCATION & EARLY YEARS

We currently have 95 T Level students enrolled on the Education and Early Years pathway:

- 22 Assisting Teaching Year 1 students.
- 9 Assisting Teaching Year 2 students.
- 29 Early Years Year 1 students.
- 35 Early Years Year 2 students.

All of our students are placed in school or nursery settings. Our efforts to place students have been greatly supported by a dedicated group of mentors, whose enthusiasm and commitment is invaluable. We are truly grateful for their support, as it plays a key role in supporting the development of our students.

Our Year One students will have at least three observations per year by their Placement Officer, and our Year Two students will have five observations by the end of May. We are currently in the exam window for the three structured observations with our Year Two students. These structured observations contribute up to 50% of the marks for their final grade.

Year Two students also enjoyed their block placement week, which took place in early January. We have received great feedback from both settings and students about this experience – all students have commented on their opportunity to experience the full curriculum.

Block Placement Feedback

“I really enjoyed block week. Having the opportunity to experience the whole week and to see all lessons was fantastic and really helped me in my College work.” – Kacey-Rae Donegan, Education & Childcare T Level Student.

“Block week was great. I put lots of theory that I have learnt at College into practice and it is a great insight into real work and expectations. I cannot wait to become a Teacher myself” - Beth Flynn, Education & Childcare T Level Student.

Feedback From Settings

“Having had Brooke (Grocott) in all week, it was fantastic both for ourselves and the student. She is such a wonderful student, so enthusiastic, supportive and an inspiration to the children. Block weeks for students are really important as it really helps to prepare them and gives them a first-hand experience of working in the real world. - Kim Tooth, Owner, Early Days Nursery.

First Aid

Our Year One students have completed their Paediatric First Aid certificate, giving them vital skills and knowledge when in placement. Initially they were involved in a 2 day course that was run by Sue Kettle, Early Years Lecturer. Then, during progression week, St John Ambulance were on site and delivered “top up sessions”. The course focused on emergency scenarios that can happen when looking after young children and infants.



Forest School



Last term students had the opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge in Forest Schools, which was extremely rewarding. Forest Schools offer a “child-centred” approach to learning, offering hands-on experiences in the natural environment whilst supporting the development of a lifelong relationship between the learner and the natural world. During the sessions our students experienced many aspects of Forest School including; den building, wool and wood craft and lots of team games.

Circus Skills

Students all went to a circus workshop where they had great fun exploring new skills and ideas ready to take back into settings and role play with the children! The skills that our students acquired will help children in their care improve their balance, flexibility and overall fitness – all whilst having FUN!



Trips



Many of our students have been lucky enough to attend many wonderful day trips with their settings. Many settings have asked if their student can be released from College to attend and support their trips which is fantastic experience both for our students and the children in their care!

SUPPORTING HEALTHCARE - ADULT NURSING & MIDWIFERY

We currently have 32 students enrolled onto the T Level Health pathway:

- 11 Adult Nursing Year 1 students.
- 7 Adult Nursing Year 2 students.
- 11 Midwifery Year 1 students.
- 3 Midwifery Year 2 students.

All of our T Level Health students are placed within residential or nursing homes, learning disability day centres and hospital trusts. Without these placements, our T Level pathways could not go ahead, we are extremely grateful to all the professionals within these placements who continue to support our students.

All Year One students have had two visits completed so far out of their three visits a year, they are due to have their last visit completed during April or May. All students have shown great progress since starting their placements at the beginning of November.

Year Two students went out onto their block placements during February, this concluded their placement hours, and they are soon to complete their assignment 2 exams which brings all of the skills they have learnt on placement and in College together.

Block Placement Feedback

“Emma (Ternent) was a pleasure to have on placement, she was very proactive and willing to learn new skills whilst she was on the Paediatric Unit. She will make a great nurse!” - Staff Nurse, Children’s A&E.

“Lucy (Bithell) has been an asset to have on the ward for this week, she has settled straight into the team, using her initiative and getting involved. We don’t have to ask Lucy to start a patients observations and she is already completing the task.” - Staff Nurse, Ward 122.

Staffordshire Nurse Trip - University of Staffordshire

The University of Staffordshire invited our First Year T Level Health students to participate in their “Staffordshire Nurse” programme. This initiative offers valuable support to aspiring nurses and midwives, providing guidance on interview preparation, personal statement writing, and information about future course options. Additionally, over the next year, the University will conduct interviews with the students, giving them the opportunity to secure a place at the University of Staffordshire.



University Hospitals of North Midlands – Facilities Tour & Talks From Registered Professionals



Our T Level Year 1 students attended a welcome event at UHNM where they met different registered professionals from different areas of the hospital. They had talks from Aysha Kent, Education and Future Workforce Manager, and Anita Timmis, Clinical Placement Facilitator for Student Midwives, explaining the potential placement options they could experience whilst on their block placements. This was an insight for the students as to how their second year placements will work.



STUDENT OVERVIEW

STUDENT OF THE MONTH - LISHBA SAGHIR

Lishba, a dedicated T Level Early Years student, delivered an exceptional learning experience during her second observation, demonstrating creativity, engagement, and outstanding teaching skills. She designed a unique storytelling activity using a teddy bear, complete with a passport and memory board to introduce children to different cultures. Working collaboratively with the class teacher, she tailored the session to a diverse group of children, including one with English as an additional language, ensuring that all learners were supported in their next steps. Lishba's engaging approach, from storytelling to hands on activities, connected with the children, fostered curiosity and promoted learning through play.



Her well-structured session incorporated cultural awareness, language development, and early literacy, while also introducing key concepts such as diversity and equality in an age appropriate way. By using interactive questioning, praise, and imaginative teaching strategies, she maintained high levels of engagement and enthusiasm.

STUDENT OVERVIEW (Continued ...)

Lishba's dedication and hard work in her placement is recognised, this was reinforced when they asked for her to be present throughout their recent OFSTED inspection.

Her outstanding performance reflects the high standards of T Level students and showcases the programme's success in developing skilled, reflective, and inspiring early year's practitioners.



AMELIE DODD - SUPPORTING HEALTHCARE

Amelie is a dedicated and enthusiastic T Level Health student who consistently demonstrates a strong desire to learn and grow within her role. She is currently completing her placement at Allendale Day Centre, where she works closely with service users who have learning disabilities. Amelie delivers person-centred care, tailoring activities to suit the unique needs and preferences of each individual. Her empathetic nature and excellent communication skills allow her to build positive relationships with both service users and staff members.



Amelie shows great initiative, regularly seeking feedback and taking on new challenges to expand her knowledge and practical experience. She actively participates in group activities, encouraging engagement and fostering a supportive environment for service users. Her willingness to go above and beyond is evident in her commitment to attending placement on extra days, demonstrating her genuine passion for the field of health and social care.



EMPLOYER OVERVIEW

SUPPORTING EDUCATION & EARLY YEARS

We work with a wide variety of schools and private childcare providers, placing students across different age groups, from nursery through to Year 6 in Key Stage 2. We have received a lot of positive feedback from our placement settings about our new starters. Our Placement Officers work diligently to build and maintain strong, effective relationships with these settings, prioritizing clear and consistent communication. Many of our new students have made a strong start in their placements, and their contributions are greatly valued by the placement providers.

EMPLOYER OVERVIEW (Continued ...)

SUPPORTING HEALTHCARE - ADULT NURSING & MIDWIFERY

We work with a wide variety of different residential and nursing homes, day centres and acute trusts. Our Placement Officers work hard to maintain effective relationships with our placement areas to ensure we are there to support our placement providers and the students. We are grateful for their support with our students.

STUDENT AND EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

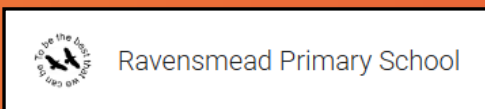


Student Name: Sophie Jervis

Course Title: Education & Childcare

Employer: Ravensmead Primary School

"I really enjoy block week because it offers a unique opportunity to build meaningful relationships with both the children and the staff. It's so rewarding to see the growth and development of the children throughout the week, seeing how they learn, and gain confidence in their abilities." – Sophie Jervis, Education & Childcare T Level Student.



Ravensmead Primary School

Employer Name: Ravensmead Primary School

Employer Contact: Jade Bould, Reception Teacher

"It has been great to have a partnership with NSCG by having an Early Years student complete their placement in my class. Having a student from NSCG has been beneficial to our student Sophie, the children and the staff. Sophie has helped to support and develop children's learning by utilising the skills she has learnt through her College journey. Sophie has been with us for nearly 2 years now and she has developed her confidence, initiative and relationships with both children and staff. It has been a pleasure having her with us. NSCG have been very supportive throughout, replying to emails and also allowing Sophie to complete extra placement days with us for trips/performances. We look forward to welcoming future NSCG students to our school." – Jade Bould, Reception Teacher at Ravensmead Primary School.



Student Name: Emma Ternent

Course Title: Healthcare – Supporting Adult Nursing

Employer: Ravensmead Primary School

"I found my placement to be inspiring. I had the opportunity to shadow some amazing, motivated nurses who fuelled my passion to work with children more! I had chance to work with MRI consultants, A&E nurses, clinics and so much more." – Emma Ternent, Healthcare – Supporting Adult Nursing T Level Student.

STUDENT AND EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT (Continued ...)



Student Name: Gemma Cliffe

Course Title: Healthcare – Supporting the Midwifery Team

Employer: Broadmeadow Court Residential Care Home

“Gemma is a pleasure to have on placement here at Broadmeadow, she is great with the residents and is always keen to get involved.” – Christine Singer, Home Manager, Broadmeadow Court Residential Care Home.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS AND CHALLENGES

SUPPORTING EDUCATION & EARLY YEARS

It is an extremely busy time of year at the moment with our Year 1 students currently completing their Employer Set Project (ESP) and we have Core Exams coming up in June. We have Frances Neven from the NCFE visiting some of our Year 2 students alongside Placement Officers for standardisation purposes.

SUPPORTING HEALTHCARE – ADULT NURSING & MIDWIFERY

The T Level Year 2 students are just about to complete their OSCE examinations, where they will pull all of their skills, from theory and placement together.

Rebecca, Kay, Jeni, Kate & Lauren

**NSCG Vocational Studies T Level Placement Officers
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