

About these standards

Realising professional standards for teachers in England



Introduction

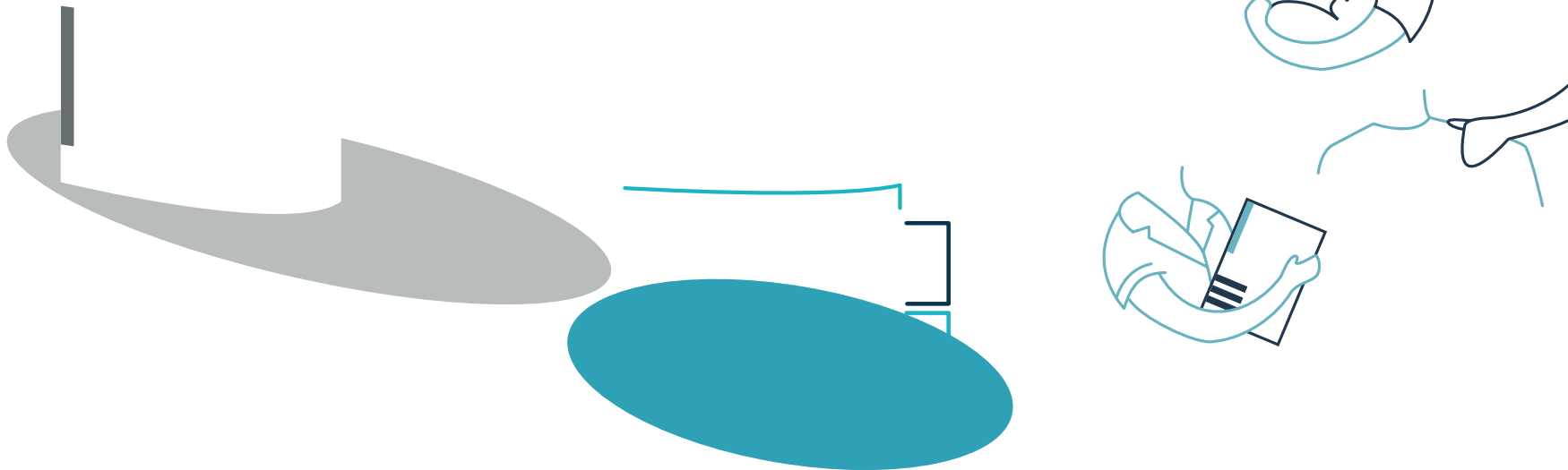
Our *Standards for student supervision and assessment* set out our expectations for the learning, support and supervision of students in the practice environment. They also set out how students are assessed for theory and practice.

Article 15(1) of the Nursing and Midwifery Order 2001 ([‘the Order’](#)) requires the Council to establish standards for education and training which are necessary to achieve the standards of proficiency for admission to the register, as required by Article 5(2) of the Order. The *Standards for student supervision and assessment* are established under the provision of Article 15(1) of the Order.

These standards aim to provide approved education institutions (AEIs) and practice learning partners with the flexibility to develop innovative approaches to nursing and midwifery education, while being accountable for the local delivery and management of approved programmes in line with our standards. Public safety is central to our standards.

Students will be in contact with people throughout their education and it's important that they learn in a safe and effective way.

The *Standards for student supervision and assessment* apply to all NMC approved programmes and should be read with the NMC *Part 1: Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* and the programme standards specific to the programme that is being delivered. There must be compliance with all these standards for an education institution to be approved and run NMC approved programmes.



Our Standards for student supervision and assessment

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Effective practice learning

All students are provided with safe, effective and inclusive learning experiences. Each learning environment has the governance and resources needed to deliver education and training. Students actively participate in their own education, learning from a range of people across a variety of settings.

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- 1.1 practice learning complies with the NMC *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education*
 - 1.2 practice learning complies with specific programme standards
 - 1.3 practice learning is designed to meet proficiencies and outcomes relevant to the programme
 - 1.4 there are suitable systems, processes, resources and individuals in place to ensure safe and effective coordination of learning within practice learning environments

- 1.5 there is a nominated person for each practice setting to actively support students and address student concerns
- 1.6 students are made aware of the support and opportunities available to them within all learning environments
- 1.7 students are empowered to be proactive and to take responsibility for their learning
- 1.8 students have opportunities to learn from a range of relevant people in practice learning environments, including service users, registered and non-registered individuals, and other students as appropriate
- 1.9 learning experiences are inclusive and support the diverse needs of individual students
- 1.10 learning experiences are tailored to the student's stage of learning, proficiencies and programme outcomes, and
- 1.11 all nurses, midwives and nursing associates contribute to practice learning in accordance with *The Code*.

Supervision of students

Practice supervision enables students to learn and safely achieve proficiency and autonomy in their professional role. All NMC registered nurses, midwives and nursing associates are capable of supervising students, serving as role models for safe and effective practice. Students may be supervised by other registered health and social care professionals.

2. Expectations

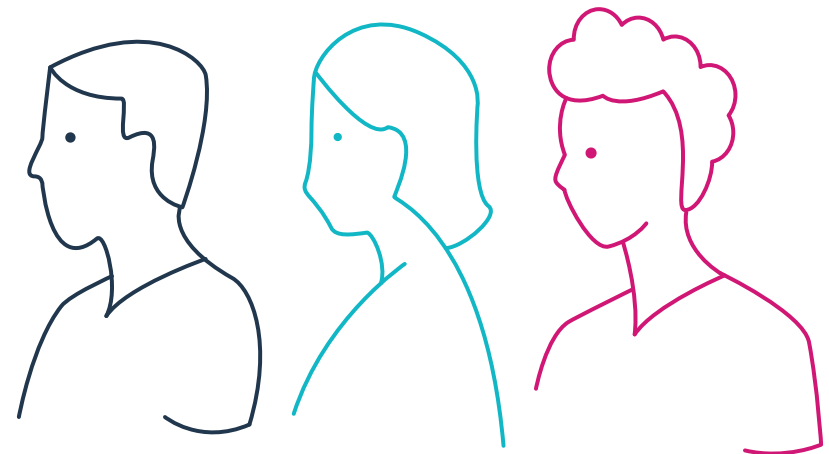
All students on an NMC approved programme are supervised while learning in practice

- 2.1 all students on an NMC approved programme are supervised while learning in practice
- 2.2 there is support and oversight of practice supervision to ensure safe and effective learning
- 2.3 the level of supervision provided to students reflects their learning needs and stage of learning
- 2.4 practice supervision ensures safe and effective learning experiences that uphold public protection and the safety of people
- 2.5 there is sufficient coordination and continuity of support and supervision of students to ensure safe and effective learning experiences
- 2.6 practice supervision facilitates independent learning, and
- 2.7 all students on an NMC approved programme are supervised in practice by NMC registered nurses, midwives, nursing associates, and other registered health and social care professionals.

3. Standards

All students on an NMC approved programme are supervised while learning in practice

- 3.1 serve as role models for safe and effective practice in line with their code of conduct
- 3.2 support learning in line with their scope of practice to enable the student to meet their proficiencies and programme outcomes
- 3.3 support and supervise students, providing feedback on their progress towards, and achievement of, proficiencies and skills
- 3.4 have current knowledge and experience of the area in which they are providing support, supervision and feedback, and
- 3.5 receive ongoing support to participate in the practice learning of students.



Assessment of students and confirmation of proficiency

Student assessments are evidence based, robust and objective. Assessments and confirmation of proficiency are based on an understanding of student achievements across theory and practice. Assessments and confirmation of proficiency are timely, providing assurance of student achievements and competence.

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- 6.1 all students on an NMC approved programme are assigned to a different nominated academic assessor for each part of the education programme
- 6.2 all students on an NMC approved programme are assigned to a nominated practice assessor for a practice placement or a series of practice placements, in line with local and national policies
- 6.3 nursing students are assigned to practice and academic assessors who are registered nurses with appropriate equivalent experience for the student's field of practice
- 6.4 midwifery students are assigned to practice and academic assessors who are registered midwives

- 6.5 specialist community public health nurse (SCPHN) students are assigned to practice and academic assessors who are registered SCPHNs with appropriate equivalent experience for the student's field of practice
- 6.6 nursing associate students are assigned to practice and academic assessors who are either a registered nursing associate or a registered nurse
- 6.7 students studying for an NMC approved post-registration qualification are assigned to practice and academic assessors in accordance with relevant programme standards
- 6.8 practice and academic assessors receive ongoing support to fulfil their roles, and
- 6.9 practice and academic assessors are expected to appropriately raise and respond to concerns regarding student conduct, competence and achievement, and are supported in doing so.



- 7.1 practice assessors conduct assessments to confirm student achievement of proficiencies and programme outcomes for practice learning
- 7.2 assessment decisions by practice assessors are informed by feedback sought and received from practice supervisors
- 7.3 practice assessors make and record objective, evidenced-based assessments on conduct, proficiency and achievement, drawing on student records, direct observations, student self-reflection, and other resources
- 7.4 practice assessors maintain current knowledge and expertise relevant for the proficiencies and programme outcomes they are assessing
- 7.5 a nominated practice assessor works in partnership with the nominated academic assessor to evaluate and recommend the student for progression for each part of the programme, in line with programme standards and local and national policies

- 7.6 there are sufficient opportunities for the practice assessor to periodically observe the student across environments in order to inform decisions for assessment and progression
- 7.7 there are sufficient opportunities for the practice assessor to gather and coordinate feedback from practice supervisors, any other practice assessors, and relevant people, in order to be assured about their decisions for assessment and progression
- 7.8 practice assessors have an understanding of the student's learning and achievement in theory
- 7.9 communication and collaboration between practice and academic assessors is scheduled for relevant points in programme structure and student progression
- 7.10 practice assessors are not simultaneously the practice supervisor and academic assessor for the same student, and
- 7.11 practice assessors for students on NMC approved prescribing programmes support learning in line with the NMC *Standards for prescribing programmes*.

8. **8.1** : **8.1.1**

8.1 , **8.1.1** , **8.1.2** : **8.1.3**

8.1 undertake preparation or evidence prior learning and experience that enables them to demonstrate achievement of the following minimum outcomes:

8.1.1 interpersonal communication skills, relevant to student learning and assessment

8.1.2 conducting objective, evidence based assessments of students

8.1.3

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