

**DIRECT OBSERVATION OF STUDENT'S PRACTICE**

*Guidelines*

Whilst on placement, social work students are asked to demonstrate they have met the PCF. The table below outlines some of the key areas, which can be assessed in face to face work with service users and other colleagues.

Please use these areas as a guide to what to look for when observing the student's practice, (briefly) noting relevant examples of how a student does/does not demonstrate her/his skills in the required areas. Plainly, not all of these areas may be covered or evidenced in any one observed situation, so do not worry if there are gaps in the form.

**Name of Student:**

**Brief description of situation observed:**

**Name of Observer:**

**Date:**

**KEY AREAS FOR OBSERVED PRACTICE**

|  |  |
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| **Prepare for Practice**  **In what ways does the student demonstrate**:  An ability to prepare  Respect for people?  Understanding of issues of confidentiality?  Awareness and sensitivity to differences in ethnicity, culture, beliefs, ability, etc?  A non‑judgemental approach?  The ability to appropriately challenge prejudice and discrimination? |  |
| **Communication and Management Skills**  **In what ways does the student demonstrate:**  An ability to put others at ease?  Listening skills?  An ability to clearly explain factual information to others?  Appropriate use of language?  Appropriate use of non‑verbal messages?  An ability to manage time?  An ability to manage emotions/feelings  An ability to manage his/her self during the interaction. |  |
| **Assessment and Planning Skills**  **In what ways does the student demonstrate:**  An ability to focus the interview or meeting appropriately?  An understanding of what information is needed from the other person in order to assess the situation or carry out the designated task?  An ability to involve the other person in the assessment or relevant task?  An awareness of risk to self or others during the interview or meeting? |  |
| **Enabling and Support Skills**  **In what ways does the student:**  Facilitate the process of the interview or meeting?  Vary the tone and pacing of an interview or meeting appropriately?  Enable the other person to identify choices, rights and responsibilities?  Demonstrate a willingness to share information appropriately? |  |
| *Professional Role*  **In what ways does the student demonstrate;**  An understanding of her/his role within the organisation?  An understanding of the legal context within which she/he is working?  An understanding of how to use her/his own strength, resources or limitations to facilitate the work of the interview or meeting? |  |
| *Any other comments arising from this observation?* | |
| *Student’s comments on observation* | |