Leeds & Wakefield

Social Work

Teaching Partnership

Practice Educator Manual 2023-24

Placement Procedure and Paperwork

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# PART ONE: PROCEDURES

*Document Updated LBU: 23/5/2023 LBU*

## First and Final Social Work Placements

**Background and Rationale**

The Leeds & Wakefield Social Work Teaching Partnership (LWSWTP) is committed to providing two quality placement learning opportunity for all social work students. This will improve opportunities for students to develop generic and transferable social work skills. It will enable students to be more fully prepared for qualified practice, enhancing employability and successful progress through the ASYE.

**Practice Placement 2 (PP2) - Final (100-day) Placement**

Where possible, all LWSWTP will be provided with a statutory placement.

**Definition**

Leeds and Wakefield Social Work Teaching Partnership defines statutory placements as those that:

* take place in a Local Authority setting
* involve work on S17 and S47 cases (under the Children Act 1989);
* involve work on delivering requirements of the Care Act 2014 and Mental Capacity Act 2005
* require case records to be updated by the student, under appropriate supervision
* require the student to undertake an assessment role
* require the student to undertake inter-professional working
* require the student to facilitate a caseload with experience of complex situations
* provides the ability to work towards the requirements of the KSS.

**Assessment of PP2**

Assessment of PP2 is at qualifying level. This is described as: *newly qualified social workers should have demonstrated the knowledge, skills and values to work with a range of user groups, and the ability to undertake a range of tasks at a foundation level, the capacity to work with more complex situations; they should be able to work more autonomously, whilst recognising that the final decision will still rest with their supervisor; they will seek appropriate support and supervision.*

The assessment is based on the nine domains of the PCF. Indicators of capability may be accessed by clicking on each of the domains here:

<https://www.basw.co.uk/resources/student-pcf-level-descriptors-pre-qualifying-levels-and-asye>

**Practice Placement 1 (PP1)**

First placements are a combination of statutory and voluntary placements.

**Definition**

Leeds and Wakefield Social Work Teaching Partnership defines first placements as those that:

* take place in a Local Authority setting
* take place in a PVI setting
* require case records to be updated by the student, under appropriate supervision
* require the student to undertake an assessment role
* require the student to undertake inter-professional working
* require the student to co-facilitate and/ or facilitate a caseload.

**Assessment of PP1**

Assessment of PP1 is at intermediate level. This is described as: *By the end of the first placement students should demonstrate effective use of knowledge, skills and commitment to core values in social work in a given setting in predominantly less complex situations, with supervision and support. They will have demonstrated capacity to work with people and situations where there may not be simple clear-cut solutions.*

The assessment is based on the nine domains of the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF). Indicators of capability may be accessed by clicking on each of the domains here:

<https://www.basw.co.uk/resources/student-pcf-level-descriptors-pre-qualifying-levels-and-asye>

### First Placement Work Allocation

For many students their first practice placement is an opportunity to gain an understanding of the social work role and begin to develop their skills of communication and engagement, assessment and reflection.  Using the systems and processes of the placement setting will be new to most students.

Regular weekly supervision is important. Clear supervision records should be kept to evidence learning and progress throughout the placement. Students will need support to apply theory to practice and to examine ethical issues. It will be important to ensure that time in supervision is prioritised to enable this work, so that students develop their confidence as very new student social workers. This will provide a foundation for their progression into final placement where they will be able to take on the full range of tasks, roles, and duties of the statutory social worker.

The student should be provided with an induction period of no less than 10 days. This should be recorded by the students. This time can be used to settle into the placement setting, familiarise themselves with working policies and procedures and to visit key partner agencies. During the induction the student should also be given opportunities to shadow the Practice Educator and other team members.

Work allocated to the student on their first placement should be done by the Practice Educator in conjunction with the team manager. Work allocated should be appropriate to the student’s level of capability in order to promote their development during the placement.

Because Practice Placement 1 is a 70-day placement it is important that students are given opportunities to develop their skills early in the placement. The allocation of work will vary depending on placement setting. Initially your student should be given co-working opportunities. By the mid-point of the placement the student should be allocated a small caseload. The cases allocated should be the same as those allocated to other non-Social Work qualified members of staff.

## Pre- Placement Procedure

1. Student completes a Placement Application Form (PAF), approved by Tutor.
2. University separates PAFs into preferences then distributes to LAs.
3. LAs allocate students to placement informs University.
4. LAs confirm allocations to PEs.
5. University informs student of placement match.
6. PE in training makes contact with PE2 mentor (if appropriate) to arrange first support contact.
7. Student makes contact with PE or OSS (On-Site Supervisor).
8. Student and PE hold introductory meeting, using suggested topics for discussion.
9. Student meets Manager informally after Introductory Meeting where appropriate.
10. Practice Learning Agreement (PLA) Meeting. Student, Tutor, PE, PE2 Mentor (if appropriate) and OSS (if appropriate) present, using PLA Form.
11. Student starts placement.

**Refusing a Student**

The PE **should not reject** a student based on their PAF unless there are mitigating circumstances e.g. personal relationship or other conflict. It is expected that a student will be afforded the opportunity to address any concerns in the introductory meeting.

Within the introductory meeting, if the PE has concerns about a prospective student, they should discuss this with the student and their team leader and (if appropriate) their PE2 Mentor immediately after the introductory meeting. These concerns would need to be **substantive concerns** about the student’s ability to undertake and develop within the placement with appropriate levels of support. Any concerns should then be communicated back to the student’s tutor, so that a discussion can take place about the concerns and appropriateness of the placement match.

Matching will pay respect to any personal or professional clashes. If an unknown clash occurs, please contact the placement co-ordinator immediately.

Should the student be refused the placement, they will be allocated a second placement match by the LA. The student and tutor should be provided with clear constructive feedback as to the reasons why they have not been accepted.

If the student is refused a second placement, the student will be required to undertake the university’s Readiness for Practice Plan to address the concerns raised, at which point they will be allocated a further placement match.

## DBS Procedure

Every social work student in the LWSWTP is required to have an enhanced DBS check at the start of their course. They must also sign a suitability declaration in regard to any other issues. Both universities have different procedures for this, and you are referred to each University’s course handbooks for further information as required.

If the student has an offence on their record, then the University will require the student to reflect on the offence (Leeds Beckett: written reflection; University of Leeds: interview). They should demonstrate understanding of the incident and consequences and learning since the incident. The University will provide the LWSWTP appointed senior representatives with the paperwork from the student, and a recommendation will be made that they should or should not be on a social work course, and comment made about their future employability. This professional judgement will be seen as sufficient for all future practice education.

**In relation to placement:**

For Leeds Beckett University students, the PE will not have access to the student’s DBS. Where the student has an offence that would impact on the student’s ability to undertake placement duties, then the placement co-ordinator will share the information with the PE, and alert the University tutor that they will do so. This will then be discussed at the PLA meeting. This is confidential information about the student and should not impact on the student’s assessment.

For University of Leeds students, the student is required to take their DBS form to the PLA meeting and show it to the PE. The PE must not take a copy, nor note the number. Where the student has an offence on their record, this is confidential information. Unless it impacts directly on the student’s ability to undertake placement duties, then it should not impact on the assessment of the student.

## Role of the Practice Educator

The PE1 or 2 in training takes day-to-day responsibility for the student and is required to:

1. provide clear learning experiences for the student in placement
2. offer 1.5 hours’ supervision per week, underpinned by theory, reflection and values as appropriate
3. attend introductory, interim and action plan meetings
4. discuss with PE2 Mentor the student’s progress
5. discuss case management with manager
6. write the Interim and Final Report
7. undertake two direct observations and provide timely constructive feedback to the student
8. gather service user feedback.

Supervision records should include:

* Date, venue, time and length of session
* Confirmation of the agenda
* Review of work previously agreed
* Service users seen / tasks / visits or project work undertaken
* Review of student's Reflective Blog entries and work for PebblePad
* Detailed discussion of aspects of the student's work, for example assessments and case records
* Evidence of progress against the domains of the PCF and KSS
* Discussion about the application of theory to practice and relevant values issues and ethical dilemmas
* Actions agreed to be reviewed at next supervision and date for next session confirmed

Each student is different and will arrive at the placement setting with varying levels of competence and experience.  Early planning, close observation and supervision of the student will allow the PE to assess the student's current level of ability in practice and to identify learning opportunities which will help in the development of practice.  *It is as important to challenge a more experienced student as it is to provide appropriate support to a more inexperienced student.*

*The supervision may be recorded using the organisation’s own recording methods.*

**If you are unavailable for anything over five placement days, be that of a planned or unplanned nature, it is your responsibility to ensure that the university tutor is informed of this fact.**

## Role of the PE2 Mentor

The PE1 or 2 in training will be supported by a *PE2 Mentor* who must be a registered social worker and qualified PE2. Their responsibilities include:

1. To attend the PLA, interim and action plan (where appropriate) meetings
2. To provide regular and ongoing mentoring support to the PE in training
3. To quality assure PE in training’s support of student, including monitoring of sufficient knowledge discussions, reflective analysis and value discussion in supervision of the student and undertaking of administrative tasks such as direct observation and interim and final report provision.
4. To give timely, constructive feedback to the PE in training
5. To provide support and advice to support the development of PE in training’s developmental needs in practice education
6. To share any concerns with PE in training’s manager
7. To undertake one direct observation of the student’s practice
8. To directly observe (and complete proforma) the PE in training on one occasion leading a supervision session with a social work student
9. To confirm and sign off the student’s Final Report which has been written by the PE in training
10. To read all paperwork provided by PE in training at end of placement. To make written recommendation of PE in training’s suitability to proceed to qualified PE 1 or 2 (as appropriate)
11. In the absence of PE in training (ie short term illness or annual leave), to provide weekly supervision.
12. If this is prolonged to undertake on role of PE in training. If this is not viable to liaise with placement lead for replacement PE.

## Responsibilities of the Off-Site Practice Educator (OSPE)

Where the placement requires an off-site practice educator, their responsibilities are

* To provide theoretical and reflective learning experiences for the student in supervision
* To offer 1.5 hours supervision per fortnight
* To attend initial, interim and action plan meetings
* To discuss with OSS and tutor the student’s progress
* To undertake a minimum of two direct observation
* To provide timely constructive feedback to the student
* To write the interim and final report
* To be responsible for the decision about placement outcome

## Responsibilities of the On-Site Supervisor (OSS)

Where the placement requires an on-site supervisor, their responsibilities are

* To provide clear learning experiences for the student in placement
* To offer 1.5 hours case management discussion per fortnight
* To attend initial, interim and action plan meetings
* To discuss with OSPE the student’s progress
* To undertake a minimum of one direct observation
* To provide timely constructive feedback to the student
* To gather service user feedback
* To contribute to the interim and final report

## Introductory Meeting Suggested Topics

The student has had sight of these questions and should be asked 2-3 of them as part of the introductory meeting.

1. What the student hopes to gain from this placement
2. What preparation has the student been doing that will enable them to undertake a placement in this setting
3. The modules that the student has studied at University, the students learning from these and how will this help them in practice / on this placement
4. Previous placements, paid work, voluntary work, or personal experience the student has had and how they think this may help them to engage with service users
5. Relevant laws and policies relating to this placement setting and why they are applicable
6. Knowledge and skills that would support the student working in this placement setting
7. Ability to contribute to a busy social work team involved with (refer to the placement setting) and current issues in this placement setting
8. Understanding of their need to be accountable and responsible for their own practice
9. Understanding of confidentiality and data protection
10. Understand why equality and diversity are important and what such issues may be in this placement setting
11. The student’s self-awareness around their reaction to aggressive behaviour or offensive comments aimed either towards themselves or others
12. Understanding of the need in social work to have difficult conversations with people and skills that could be used in such a situation

**PE to let the student know the outcome of the meeting as soon as possible.**

**PE to inform relevant colleague in Workforce / Organisational Development as soon as possible that the placement will go ahead and, if not, why not.**

## Practice Learning Agreement (PLA) meeting

Prior to placement commencement a meeting between relevant staff and the student should take place**.** The key aim of this meeting is to complete the Practice Learning Agreement (PLA)**. A placement should not start without clear arrangements being in place**. It is important that the PLA meeting includes all relevant parties (student, tutor and Practice Educator(s).)

The PLA serves as the contractual basis of the student placement. It should take account of the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF), the learning opportunities afforded by the placement, student learning needs, any Covid-19 arrangement, supervision arrangements and finalise a range of practical information. The Tutor should explain the purpose of the PLA ensuring all parties understand their roles and responsibilities (see section 3).

The following inform discussion at the PLA meeting:

* Practical arrangements should be clearly stated and understood at the meeting e.g. travel required, provision of equipment such as mobile phones and general working arrangements.
* Absence arrangements should be discussed.

The requirements of whom to inform when unable to attend on the day due to sickness should be agreed. Regular or prolonged periods of sickness should be discussed with the Tutor, by both student and PE.

Holidays must be agreed and discussed at the PLA meeting. A week is recommended.

* Any issues that may impact on the learning process should be shared. In particular, a discussion should take place concerning how feedback will be given to students both informally and formally. Additionally, all parties should discuss how issues of conflict or regarding performance are managed within the assessment and learning process
* Students are expected to work normal agency hours over five days per week. Where the agency hours are less than 7 hours per day, students will need to extend days to reflect this. Meal breaks are not included in the hour calculations.
* Study time must be discussed and agreed at the PLA meeting, based on one study day a fortnight.
* Students MUST complete the full number of placement days. The Attendance Sheet (see placement paperwork handbook) must be dated and signed by the student each day and the PE. For training events, students should obtain a certificate of attendance which is then approved by their PE.
* Practice Educator roles within the placement should be discussed and agreed at the PLA meeting.
* Set the date of the interim meeting.

The PLA should be completed **by the student** in draft form at the PLA Meeting and the student should ensure a completed version of the PLA is uploaded to PebblePad two weeks after placement commencement

## Attendance Procedure

The student is expected to attend placement each day from 8.30am-5pm, with a minimum of half an hour lunch break. The exception to this is if the placement hours are different to this, in which case the student’s hours would be agreed in the PLA Meeting.

The student is required to attend placement for 70 days (first placement) or 100 days (final placement). The student has to complete an attendance grid, which the PE must sign off at the end of the placement to verify the student’s attendance for the required number of days.

Recall days and review days count as placement days.

The student is entitled to accrue time off in Lieu (TOIL) or Flextime if they work additional to the agreed hours. There is no expectation that students work additional hours, however, sometimes this work can offer useful learning opportunities. The time must be taken back in accordance with the placement’s TOIL or flexi policy. It is not good practice to accrue TOIL or flexi, so it is recommended that students take the time back as soon as possible.

The student is entitled to study leave of half a day per week (UoL) or one day per fortnight (LBU), to be agreed at the PLA Meeting. It is the student’s responsibility to diarise this (with PE support) and to protect that time for placement related study.

During placement, Leeds Beckett University students are entitled to five days leave from placement. This should be pre-booked with the PE at the PLA Meeting. **These leave days *do not* count as placement days.**

The student is entitled to time off sick from placement if required. Students would usually be expected to ring the PE and the office before 8.30am, however the specific arrangements for reporting sickness absence will be agreed at the PLA Meeting. Students are also required to follow sickness absence reporting procedures for their University. Any days off sick, or days off for any other reason, ***do not* count** as placement days. If students have a health appointment, this should be facilitated within placement hours, however the time should be made up. If students have an emergency childcare situation or an emergency regarding other caring responsibilities, normal agency flexibility should be applied. However, this time needs to be made up.

If the student has frequent unplanned periods of absence from the placement, the PE should first discuss informally with the student; next contact the tutor; and then follow procedure as necessary. This would also be the case for habitual lateness in arriving at placement.

If the student is absent from placement (for any reason) for a prolonged period, the tutor, PE and student should meet for a return to placement meeting to ensure that the student’s return is both appropriate and supported.

Students should not undertake paid work on a placement day.

## Interim Meeting

This meeting takes place halfway through the placement, when the Interim Report is due, and involves the Tutor, PE and student. At least one Direct Observation must have been completed by this meeting. The student should provide relevant work undertaken for their practice assessment to the PE prior to the meeting – this should include evidence of the student’s progress in meeting the PCF.

The purpose of the meeting is:

* To discuss and finalise the Interim Report. A draft of the report should be available for discussion at the Interim Meeting
* To evaluate the student’s performance to date and to review the PLA – this includes discussing if there are potential gaps in the learning opportunities provided in the placement and to explore strategies which allow the student to demonstrate their ability in all the PCF domains.

## Final Report

A final meeting is only necessary when a student has experienced difficulties in placement or the tutor, PE(s) and student feel it is appropriate.

The student must provide two pieces of evidence per domain in their in portfolio shortly before the end of placement.

The PE’s Final Report is a concise assessment summary of the progress of the student within the placement based on the evidence of the student’s capability. The report is intended to provide examples of evidence of the student’s capability against the nine domains of the PCF. Please see the Practice Curriculum guidance and the PCF guidance on what should be expected of students by the point of qualifying practice.

The Final Report needs to indicate clearly that the student has passed or failed the placement, and if the student has demonstrated capability against each domain. We would normally recommend at least two examples of how you know that the student is capable against each domain, which would be drawn from the student’s PebblePad Evidence Grid.

However, if there are concerns in respect of the student not being able to demonstrate capability, then it may be appropriate to provide further evidence and / or a chronology. Any differences of view between PE and student in relation to the assessment of the student’s performance must be clearly recorded by the PE. In this case, the student has the right to submit an Addendum to the Report.

An exemplar report is available to support practice educators with this task. Additionally, the Practice Educator Support Groups provide support with report writing.

Where a student withdraws themselves from placement for whatever reason, even if early in the placement, the Practice Educator should still complete and submit a Report.

## Concerns Procedure

**Students who are experiencing difficulties on placement**

It is important that all those involved in placements are clear about policies and procedures which are relevant where students are experiencing difficulties on placement and / or where there are concerns about the student and their work. Relevant policies and procedures will depend on individual circumstances. The tutor should bring these policies and procedures to the attention of all concerned at the PLA Meeting prior to the commencement of placement.

Where the student is experiencing difficulties in progression, the first step is for the student and PE to discuss concerns openly. It is expected that PE will raise any concerns with the student in supervision as soon as possible after they become apparent, since the sooner difficulties are discussed the more chance the student has to work on these.

Where these concerns continue, discussion needs to take place between the student, PE and Tutor. This is usually called an Action Plan meeting (see proforma section) addressing the difficulties and concerns should be drawn up at a meeting involving the student, PE and tutor. Any Action Plan needs to specifically outline what is expected of the student, areas for development, achievable goals, timescales and what support the student may need and will receive to support them to achieve these goals.

Where students are experiencing difficulties in demonstrating capability in meeting the PCF domains or where there have been difficulties providing appropriate learning opportunities it may be possible in such circumstances to extend placement beyond the required number of placement days. Any planned extension must be discussed with the PE and tutor. An extension will only be considered where there have been significant difficulties in providing the appropriate learning opportunities within the normal placement period or where an extension could enable progress in relation to a particular area of concern. The extension would normally be for no more than 20 days for Leeds Beckett University (must be agreed by the Course Director) and no more than 30 days for University of Leeds (must be agreed by PAP.)

If it is felt that the student will fail, this should be discussed fully with all concerned. Evidence detailing the fail needs to be provided in the Final Report, as well as recommendations for the future, to enable the student and the programme to clarify options available.

**Further areas for discussion by student, PE and Tutor**

PEs for Leeds Beckett University students should be guided by the Practice Curriculum as to whether students are meeting the relevant indicators for satisfactory progression against the PCF. This will depend on the particular stage of the placement.

* If, following discussion, it is felt that appropriate learning opportunities cannot be made available in the placement setting, then alternative placement arrangements need to be considered / made.
* There may be occasions where students are experiencing personal or health issues which may be impacting on their performance on placement. This should be discussed with the PE as soon as possible. If this affects performance in the placement, then the student needs to consider taking time out or withdrawal. If these difficulties are significant, the student has a responsibility to consider the needs of service users and carers and colleagues as well as self. (Please see SWE Professional Standards). The PE should involve the tutor in any such discussion or decision.
* Difficulties may arise between the PE and the student. It is important that students learn to manage conflict issues as this is part of professional practice. However, where these cannot be resolved then a meeting needs to be convened with relevant staff, facilitated by the tutor.
* Where appropriate, it may be agreed that the student does not attend placement until a meeting with the relevant people has been held. The PE should discuss this course of action with the tutor.

**Suspension of Placement**

If the PE feels that at this point that the placement is not viable, due to the student’s health or personal circumstances, or due to an incident that placed the student, a service user, or colleague at risk, then the PE should consult with their PE2 Mentor and tutor and agree a temporary suspension of placement with the student. A Concerns Meeting should be called immediately, so that an Action Plan can be formulated. If appropriate, this will be investigated under the student’s University’s relevant procedure.

**Termination of Placement**

If a PE considers that, in their professional judgement, the practice of the student:

* Is damaging and dangerous to service users and/or colleagues.
* Creates an unacceptable risk to themselves or others.
* Shows a serious failure to follow the SWE Professional Standards.
* In any way gives rise to questions regarding a student’s professional suitability, fitness to practise or conduct.

The PE should consult with the tutor and a decision to terminate the placement should be considered. The matter should be referred to the BA or MA Course Leader (as relevant) and may then be investigated subject to the student’s University’s procedure.

**Complaints Procedure**

Students should always seek to resolve any concern with their PE or with their tutor prior to instigating the complaints procedure. Students may access their University’s Complaints Procedures independently.

**Other Peoples’ Conduct’, ‘Whistle Blowing’ and ‘Raising Concerns’**

Student Social Workers have a duty to report to relevant staff supporting placements any breaches of the SWE Professional Standards. This includes any conduct, behaviour, or actions by colleagues. The Universities recognise that this can be a difficult process for students and appropriate support will be provided. Where students are unsure about reporting concerns, they should discuss this immediately with their PE and / or tutor. Students may access their University’s procedures to do this.

## Exit Procedure

When student placements are coming to an end and PEs are recommending a **PASS** for their student, the following should be done prior to the student’s last day. PEs should not sign off the student’s Final Report until all of the tasks below are completed:

* Students to give clear and timely information to service users, colleagues and other professionals (if applicable) about their forthcoming end of placement
* Where appropriate students to arrange an ‘ending’ with service users
* PE and student to organise a final supervision meeting to review placement, to offer feedback to each other and to agree on any future contact
* Students to update and complete all their placement paperwork, case recording and follow agency handover procedures
* Students to return ID cards, laptops, mobile phones and any other equipment
* Students to surrender their log-in / password for the placement computer system
* Students to take away any personal possessions with them

When student placements are coming to an end and PEs are recommending a **FAIL** for their student, in addition to the above, the following should be done prior to the student’s last day.

* PE and Manager to set clear boundaries for student’s final contact with placement, service users and colleagues
* PE and Manager to set clear boundaries for future contact, if applicable
* PE to complete any additional reports for the University in relation to the failed placement by the agreed deadline
* If appropriate, students to be given opportunity to say ‘goodbye’ to service users and colleagues, which may need to be supervised by the PE
* Students to be invited to ‘clear their desk’ at a time convenient for the PE and team. This may need to be supervised by the PE.

Following the end of placement both the PE and student are required to complete an evaluation of the practice learning experience. This will be circulated by the HEI.

## Practice Education PE1 and PE2 Training

PE1 and PE2 training is attended by nomination through the social worker’s Manager.

The candidate must be a qualified registered social worker with a minimum of two years’ experience (including AYSE).

By attending the courses, both agency and social worker are committing to the PE in training having a student within 6 months of the training. In order to be validated, and therefore qualified, the PE in training must meet the criteria, outlined in the training handbook.

For dates, please see local training information.

## Practice Educator Support Groups

PESG are designed to supplement PE training and support PEs of all experience and qualification.

Please find dates and book through Workforce / Organisational Development

These will be a Teams video discussion.

## Practice Champions

The Teaching Partnership has Practice Champions across the partners. The purpose of the Practice Champion is to embed high quality practice education in the four Local Authority service areas to ensure better support and ongoing quality assurance.

Roles:

* Co-deliver Practice Education training
* Co-facilitate Practice Educator Support Groups
* Sit on Validating Assessments Panels for PE2 certification
* Localised peer support / be point of contact as expert for any PE queries.

Criteria for role:

* Active PE2 qualified with experience in mentoring PE1 in training
* Have an interest in furthering Practice Education
* Indicative time – 2-3 sessions per year.

# PART TWO: PAPERWORK

**This section provides LWSWTP student placement paperwork**

**Please be aware that if you have a LBU apprentice placed with you, that they have slightly different forms that they will provide for you on request.**

**Please be aware that if you have a student from outside the LWSWTP that they will have different forms**

## Student Welcome and Introduction

**About the Practice Educator & Team**

Please provide some information about yourself and your team to share with your student prior to the Introductory Meeting.

NB: Please send a copy of this form to both the student **and** their University

Leeds Beckett: [socialworkplacements@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:socialworkplacements@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

University of Leeds: [placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Your preferred First and Last Name |  | | | |
| Email address |  | | | |
| Contact Tel No |  | | | |
| Name of Local Authority / Organisation | Leeds Adult |  | Leeds Children |  |
| Wakefield Adult |  | Wakefield Children |  |
| Other (please add) |  | | |
| Team Type & Name |  | | | |
| Address & Postcode |  | | | |
| Your role in the Team |  | | | |
| Information about the team’s responsibilities |  | | | |
| What can the student do to prepare for their introductory meeting with you? |  | | | |
| Usual office hours / work days |  | | | |
| Your usual work days |  | | | |
| Is there any parking |  | | | |
| Any other information you feel might be relevant |  | | | |
| Please remember to prepare a planned induction for your student and access to a work space and IT etc. | | | | |

## Placement Learning Agreement (PLA)

**Placement Learning Agreement (PLA)**

**This document should be used in preparation for, and during, the PLA meeting**

|  |
| --- |
| ***Leeds Beckett University*** students, the completed and signed PLA must be uploaded to PebblePad within two weeks of starting placement  **University of Leeds**  ***Practice Educator***, please scan and email this completed and signed report to  [placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk)  ***Student***, please print off a copy of this completed and signed report to be placed in your portfolio |

**STUDENT & UNIVERSITY INFORMATION**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **STUDENT** | | | |
| Full Name |  | | |
| University | Leeds Beckett University | |  |
| Programme / Course | BA |  | |
| MA |  | |
| Placement | First (70-day) | |  |
| Final (100-day) | |  |
| Contact / Mobile Number |  | | |
| Email (university) |  | | |
| **TUTOR** | | | |
| Full Name |  | | |
| Contact / Mobile Number |  | | |
| Email |  | | |

**PLACEMENT INFORMATION**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PLACEMENT SETTING** | | | | |
| Name of Placement Setting | Leeds Adult |  | Leeds Children |  |
| Wakefield Adult |  | Wakefield Children |  |
| Agency (please add) |  | | |
| Team Name |  | | | |
| Placement Address & Postcode |  | | | |
| **Practice Educator** |  | | | |
| Contact / Mobile No |  | | | |
| Email |  | | | |
| **PE2 Mentor** |  | | | |
| Contact / Mobile No |  | | | |
| Email |  | | | |
| **On-Site Supervisor** |  | | | |
| Contact / Mobile No |  | | | |
| Email |  | | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **BACK-UP Arrangements PE or OSS is away from the office for more than one day**  **If the PE goes off for any length of time, please inform the tutor and the LA placement co-ordinator** | |
| Practice Educator  (this can be qualified PE, PE1/PE2 in training, or OSPE) |  |
| PE2 Mentor (where appropriate) |  |
| On-Site Supervisor (where appropriate) |  |
| If the University Tutor is away for a prolonged period, cover will be arranged by:  ***Leeds Beckett University*** - David Mercer (BA and MA) [d.mercer@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:d.mercer@leedsbeckett.ac.uk) | |

**DAYS, DATES and AVAILABILITY**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **PRACTICE LEARNING DATES**  Complete relevant details for your practice learning opportunity (mark box) | | |
| BA2 and MA1 first placement  (70 days)  BA3 and MA2 final placement  (minimum 100 days) | From |  |
| To |  |
| **OTHER DATES** | | |
| Dates students required to be in University |  | |
| Student Holidays  (5 days) (please discuss any cultural festivals) |  | |
| Agency Holidays |  | |
| PE holidays and / or availability |  | |
| PE2 Mentor holidays and / or availability |  | |
| On-Site Supervisor holidays and / or availability |  | |
| Tutor holidays and / or availability |  | |

**INDIVIDUAL LEARNING NEEDS**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FAIR ASSESSMENT**  Every effort should be made to ensure that each student has a fair and transparent assessment. It is the PE’s responsibility to work with the student in a fair and open way, providing timely, constructive feedback throughout the placement.  A discussion as to how any power dynamics will be managed should happen at the PLA and how issues of conflict or student performance are to be discussed.  This should include a discussion about anti-oppressive practice and student inclusivity, where the PE is aware of similarities and differences with the student and provides a personalised and safe learning environment which takes account of the student’s previous social, cultural and educational experiences.  Details of the discussion at the PLA need to be recorded below | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | |
| **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**  Please note below any other requirements relating to the student which have not been covered in the discussion of equal opportunities above. | | | | | | | |
| If you have an Individual Support Plan (ISP) please detail below.  This will enable the exploration of viable reasonable adjustments to facilitate students’ ability to participate fully in the placement learning opportunities.  Please be aware that the student choses what to share with placement, but if they chose not to share details cannot later cite lack of specific support against a placement outcome. | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | |
| Health issues and any related requirements | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | |
| Personal or exceptional caring needs which may need to be taken into account.  Please note: any childcare or other caring roles should not be undertaken in placement hours.  Please discuss any necessary flexibility to facilitate this. | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | |
| Transport arrangements. *Please indicate in box below. Also, discuss any relevant issues re student travel costs and detail here* | | | | | | | |
| Car |  | Bicycle |  | Public transport |  | Other (specify) |  |
| Does the agency contribute to the student’s travel expenses? | | | | | | |  |

**DBS, INSURANCE & POLICIES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DBS CHECK**  **All students have undertaken an Enhanced DBS**  ***Leeds Beckett University students***: Where students have an issue highlighted relating to DBS, this will have already been shared with the relevant staff at the agency. If it is professionally relevant to the placement, then the PE would be informed. | |
| **CAR INSURANCE**  **If the student has indicated that they will be using their own car on placement they must ensure that they have adequate insurance and provide details to the agency.** | |
| Student to arrange and provide details to agency at start of placement |  |
| Already in place and provided to agency |  |
| Not applicable |  |
| **AGENCY POLICIES**  Students are subject to all agency policies and procedures unless otherwise stated. Student to have access to all agency policies in induction.  This should include remote working policies. | |

**PRACTICAL AND PROFESSIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ARRANGEMENT DETAILS** | | |
| Agency hours | |  |
| Any Covid relevant points that need to be discussed and recorded | |  |
| Team working pattern  (please discuss and record expectations of office based / Working from Home (WfH) arrangements for the student) | |  |
| Working from Home:  (please discuss storage of confidential information, ability to speak to service users confidentially, childcare etc) | |  |
| Time off in lieu | |  |
| Access to desk, computer and telephone | Home based |  |
| Office based |  |
| Access to building | |  |
| Agency ID card | |  |
| Car parking arrangements | |  |
| Dress code / policy | |  |
| Action required in relation to sick leave | | On placement: |
| LBU:  Please log any absence on the Placement Absence Reporting form  <https://myhub.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/students/login?ReturnUrl=%2fForm.aspx%3fid%3d1488532> |
| Action required in terms of letting staff know about student's location and work availability | |  |
| Disability / Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 requirements | | Please see discussion above |
| Arrangements for study / academic development time:  ***Leeds Beckett University*** – I day per fortnight | |  |

**STUDENT'S PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE AND INTERESTS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Pre course and previous placements | | |
|  | | |
| For final placements only, has the PE seen the Final Report from the previous 70 day placement? | Yes |  |
| No |  |

**COURSE WORK AND RELEVANCE TO PRACTICE**

|  |
| --- |
| Modules previously studied |
|  |
| Dates of assessments within placement period |
|  |

**STUDENT LEARNING NEEDS**

|  |
| --- |
| **GENERAL AIMS OF THIS PERIOD OF PRACTICE LEARNING**  To provide practice and learning opportunities to enable the student to achieve the levels of capability appropriate to the period of Practice Learning and as set out in the Professional Capabilities Framework and as detailed in the Placement Handbook. |
| Specific learning needs of student (eg knowledge and skills etc)  It is important that this is a detailed discussion that includes identified areas for development, and the student’s learning style. |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Work to be undertaken by student during practice learning. This will be appropriate to the level of the student’s placement, first or final.  This needs to be a detailed discussion that reflects on how work will be undertaken across remote and office working. |
|  |
| Learning opportunities relating to values and diversity |
|  |

**SUPERVISION ARRANGEMENTS**

|  |
| --- |
| Supervision should be **weekly** but can reduce to fortnightly following discussion in the interim meeting, if agreed by all parties.  Please identify below when and in what form this will take (ie, remote or office based).  What preparation will be expected for supervision?  What will be standard agenda items?  Who will record supervision minutes?  Who will cover supervision with student if PE is not available that week? |
|  |
| How will problems and concerns be addressed?  Differences in opinion should be aired and negotiated as appropriate. |
|  |

**DIRECT OBSERVATIONS**

|  |
| --- |
| The student must be observed a minimum of three times in the placement period, one before the interim meeting. Please detail how these will be organised. |
|  |

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SOURCES OF EVIDENCE FOR ASSESSMENT** | |
| * Direct observation of student's work (a minimum of three are required, with at least two undertaken by the Practice Educator) * Supervision * Case recording, other documentation and work products * Feedback from service users and carers * Feedback from colleagues within and beyond the agency * Reflective blog/reflective journal (Extracts from the blog/journal should be made available to the Practice Educator prior to supervision sessions) | |
| Other (please specify) |  |
| Date of Interim Meeting / Date when Interim Report is due |  |
| Date when Final Report is due |  |
| Dates when Student’s portfolio will be completed and made available to PE prior to Interim and Final Report deadlines |  |
| **EVALUATION OF PRACTICE LEARNING** | |
| **Feedback and evaluation between Practice Educator and student should be ongoing from the outset of placement.**  **Placements are formally evaluated using the Quality Assurance of Practice Learning (QAPL) Evaluation Form. Students and Practice Educators are required to complete an evaluation at the end of placement. Details will be provided by the University.** | |

**STATEMENTS, DECLARATIONS & SIGNATURES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **STATEMENTS** | | |
| **STATEMENT BY THE AGENCY (as applicable)**  In my view this agreement meets the learning needs of the student and the requirements of the programme**.** | | |
| **STATEMENT BY THE HEI (TUTOR)**  In my view this agreement meets the learning needs of the student and the requirements of the programme. | | |
| **STATEMENT BY THE STUDENT**  I have read and understood the University’s procedure and the relevant policies concerning when placements are withdrawn, suspended or failed. | | |
| **DECLARATION: ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRACTICE LEARNING AGREEMENT & ACCEPTANCE OF THE STATEMENTS** | | |
| **Role** | **Signature** | **Date** |
| Student |  |  |
| PE |  |  |
| PE2 Mentor |  |  |
| On-Site Supervisor |  |  |
| University Tutor |  |  |

## Student Placement Induction

**Student Induction Guide**

**Leeds & Wakefield Social Work Teaching Partnership**

**Introduction**

This document aims to provide guidance to practice educators to ensure their new student gets the best possible induction into their placement. It both will help plan for arrival of the student and help them feel welcomed into the team, as well as offering a template to plan their first 2 weeks to help them settle in.

A good induction process ensures that all students feel confident and supported in their new role, and that they quickly settle into the team dynamics. Students are entitled to expect an induction as part of their practice learning experience. If the student has difficulties during the placement this document will be reviewed to ensure the student had a full induction to the service.

Practice Educators play a key part in providing the first few weeks’ induction to ensure students gain a full understanding of their role gaining knowledge of clear objectives and expectations of the service.

By taking the time to deliver a well-designed and effective induction Practice Educators can ensure that all new employees are provided with the information needed to perform their role, such as, the Council’s key priorities, policies and procedures, the correct values, behaviours and attributes. Delivery of this information will set the standard expected to perform the role.

**Pre arrival checklist**

Please use student welcome documentation provided by your workforce development team to send to your student beforehand. This will detail their working hours, office address, etc. Ideally this should be sent to them **prior** to the introductory meeting.

Prior to their arrival you will need to organise a number of things:

* Inform team of new student start date
* Computer/laptop
* Phone number
* Desk / chair
* System training
* Account and Email
* IT – New User Request / new systems
* Reasonable adjustment required (identified in the practice learning agreement)
* ID Badge – gather information in readiness for start date

**First day**

Below is a summary of guidance to help you plan your student’s first day and what they need to know about working in your team. It can be quite overwhelming for students as, for some, this is their first experience of working in an office so please try and support them in accessing this information at their pace. It is helpful to set some time aside with your student for a supervision on their first day. Much of the information below can be discussed and recorded in this first supervision session.

|  |
| --- |
| **Health** **and Safety** |
| Give the student a tour of the office building Suggestions include-   * Statutory Notices * Safety Signs * First Aid Boxes (and who the nominated First Aider(s) are) * Safety Procedures Manual and Information (SIP) * Fire Exits & Assembly Point(s) evacuation procedure * Completion of Emergency contact form Discuss any security arrangements/ swipe-card use/ access to Council buildings (including hours of access). Provide your student with the information needed to obtain their ID badge. * Show locations of storage facilities (lockable) for any valuables * (if applicable) * Discuss how to report any Accidents & Near misses |
| **Corporate and local information** |
| * Overview of your team, including a structure. Provide your student with a list of team member’s names and telephone numbers/desk plan if applicable. Introduce your student to team members. * Discuss team protocols for eating lunch. For example, can lunch be eaten at their desk and are there places to store food or buy food locally. Also explain how the Tea fund works and whether or not the student is expected to contribute/bring their own mug. |
| **Support** |
| * The following can be covered in first supervision * Working Hours & Core Hours first supervision * Shifts and Cover (role specific) * Use of personal phone etc. * Smoking Policy * Sickness and absences procedure – who to call/ contact information/ timescales * Dress code * Discuss Health & Wellbeing –Work-life balance, Mental Health Wellbeing, Stress Awareness, Emotional Resilience etc. |
| **Communication and IT** |
| * Issue work mobile telephone (if applicable) * Issue username and password for access * Issue essential work telephone numbers, including new student’s work contact number * Brief tour of Intranet and Outlook and how to access for contact numbers, email addresses and other information |

**Student checklist**

The following is a guide of what you student needs to find out about from you and the team in the first 2 weeks and may form the basis of your supervisions in the first few weeks. Please give this form to your student as part of their self-directed learning in the first few weeks of placement.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How to make a telephone call |  |
| Who’s who in the team |  |
| How to access voicemail |  |
| Lunch Times |  |
| Any pre-arranged meetings or visits |  |
| Local lone working and personal safety protocols |  |
| How to add and use a printer |  |
| How to store information electronically |  |
| Computer security |  |
| How to use the intranet |  |
| How to use outlook including electronic calendar |  |
| How to avoid security breaches and what to do in the case of one |  |
| Flexible working policy |  |
| Leave – Annual, Special Leave etc. |  |
| Time Recording Procedure (written and electronic) |  |
| Structure of Directorate & Service Areas and discuss any information about the Council & specific Service Area |  |
| Whistleblowing policy |  |
| Date and times of team meetings |  |
| List of key phone numbers |  |

**Suggested reading for your student**

It might be useful to prepare some reading material for your student

Suggestions include the information below but you may choose to add more that you think are helpful.

* **Data Protection**
* **Equality & Diversity Awareness**
* **Freedom of Information**
* **Information Governance**
* **Safeguarding Adults**
* **Safeguarding Children**
* **Relevant policies and procedures**

**First 2 weeks’ calendar**

Use this document to help plan your students first 2 weeks – including supervision, team meetings, shadowing, visits and training planned.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## Direct Observation of Student’s Practice

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of student | |  | | |
| Name and role of observer | |  | | |
| Date of observation | |  | 1st, 2nd or 3rd direct observation |  |
| Brief description of session/work/situation/objectives and the context to be observed | |  | | |
| **Observers comments** | | | | |
| How did the student plan and prepare for the session? | |  | | |
| How did the student demonstrate they are meeting the nine domains of the PCF? N.B. Only complete the relevant domains | | | | |
| PCF 1 |  | | | |
| PCF 2 |  | | | |
| PCF 3 |  | | | |
| PCF 4 |  | | | |
| PCF 5 |  | | | |
| PCF 6 |  | | | |
| PCF 7 |  | | | |
| PCF 8 |  | | | |
| PCF 9 |  | | | |
| How did the student respond to unanticipated issues or opportunities? | |  | | |
| Overall comments on student’s performance, including strengths and suggestions for development of future practice | |  | | |
| Feedback from service users.  Where possible observers should aim to gather feedback from service users about the student and their practice. This should take place without the student being present so that service users do not feel inhibited from expressing their views. | |  | | |
| Student’s reflection on direct observation and response to feedback | |  | | |

## Interim Report for First (70-day) and Final (100-day) Placement

**Interim Report**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student Full Name |  | | | | | | |
| University | Leeds Beckett University | | | |  | | |
| University of Leeds | | | |  | | |
| Course | BA |  | | | MA |  | |
| Placement | First |  | | | Final |  | |
| Local Authority / Agency | Leeds Adult | |  | Leeds Children | | |  |
| Wakefield Adult | |  | Wakefield Children | | |  |
| Agency (please add) | |  | | | | |
| Team Name |  | | | | | | |
|  | Name | | | Signature | | | |
| Practice Educator |  | | |  | | | |
| PE2 Mentor |  | | |  | | | |
| On Site Supervisor |  | | |  | | | |
| Tutor |  | | |  | | | |
| Date of Meeting |  | | | | | | |
| Number of days the student has completed at the interim meeting date | | | | | |  | |

**Brief summary of student’s work to date**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Has the **Practice Learning Agreement** (PLA) been completed and signed? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Date PLA signed |  | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Has **weekly supervision** taken place? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Include dates of supervision | | |
|  | | |
| Any action to be taken? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
|  | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Has the first **direct observation** taken place? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Include date and brief details: | | |
|  | | |
| Any action to be taken? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
|  | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Has the PE or student been able to obtain **service user feedback**? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Any action to be taken? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
|  | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Has the student produced regular **reflective blogs / journals**? (LBU every two weeks, UoL weekly) | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Has the PE seen and commented on these? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Any action to be taken? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
|  | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Additional Tutor Checklist | Yes | No |
| Are the student’s learning needs being met, against PLA and ongoing? |  |  |
| Is the student’s caseload / workload allocation varied, at the appropriate level and in line with the PLA? |  |  |
| (LBU only)  Has the tutor given feedback on 1-2 reflections?  Has the PE provided feedback on PebblePad reflections? |  |  |
|  |  |
| Has one piece of evidence per domain been collated by the student?  Has advice been given by the PE on evidence/domain match? |  |  |
|  |  |
| Has the PE seen a selection of assessments/case notes/case recordings? |  |  |
| Is an action plan meeting appropriate? |  |  |
| Proposed final date of placement agreed?  (subject to change if time off taken) |  |  |
| Please provide detail of discussion and actions agreed | | |
|  | | |

Please use the following grids to assess the student’s progress at the interim stage. Mark with a tick against the relevant box for each PCF using the guide below.

**E**xpected to meet: where the students is engaging well with the domain and is making good progress and is expected to pass the domain at the end of placement

**N**ot yet had opportunity: where the student has not yet had the opportunity to achieve this. Please be clear how this will be met in the second half of placement.

**R**efer: where there are concerns about the student demonstrating capability in this area.  This should then be highlighted and discussed at the interim meeting

Please also write 50 – 150 words of commentary under each heading to support your assessment on the grid.

**PCF 1 Professionalism**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Professionalism** - Identify and behave as a professional social worker, committed to professional development. | **E** | **N** | **R** |
| Social workers are members of an internationally recognised profession, a title protected in UK law. Social workers demonstrate professional commitment by taking responsibility for their conduct, practice and learning, with support through supervision. As representatives of the social work profession they safeguard its reputation and are accountable to the professional regulator. |  |  |  |
| **Comments** | | | |
|  | | | |

**PCF 2 Values and Ethics –**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Values and Ethics -** Apply social work ethical principles and values to guide professional practice. | **E** | **N** | **R** |
| Social workers have an obligation to conduct themselves ethically and to engage in ethical decision-making, including through partnership with people who use their services. Social workers are knowledgeable about the value base of their profession, its ethical standards and relevant law. |  |  |  |
| **Comments** | | | |
|  | | | |

**PCF 3 Diversity**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Diversity -** Recognise diversity and apply anti-discriminatory and anti-oppressive principles in practice. | **E** | **N** | **R** |
| Social workers understand that diversity characterises and shapes human experience and is critical to the formation of identity. Diversity is multi- dimensional and includes race, disability, class, economic status, age, sexuality, gender and transgender, faith and belief. Social workers appreciate that, as a consequence of difference, a person’s life experience may include oppression, marginalisation and alienation as well as privilege, power and acclaim, and are able to challenge appropriately. |  |  |  |
| **Comments** | | | |
|  | | | |

**PCF 4 Rights, Justice and Economic Wellbeing**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rights, Justice and Economic Wellbeing -** Advance human rights and promote social justice and economic well-being. | **E** | **N** | **R** |
| Social workers recognise the fundamental principles of human rights and equality, and that these are protected in national and international law, conventions and policies. They ensure these principles underpin their practice. Social workers understand the importance of using and contributing to case law and applying these rights in their own practice. They understand the effects of oppression, discrimination and poverty. |  |  |  |
| **Comments** | | | |
|  | | | |

**PCF 5 Knowledge**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Knowledge -** Apply knowledge of social sciences, law and social work practice theory. | **E** | **N** | **R** |
| Social workers understand psychological, social, cultural, spiritual and physical influences on people; human development throughout the life span and the legal framework for practice. They apply this knowledge in their work with individuals, families and communities. They know and use theories and methods of social work practice. |  |  |  |
| **Comments** | | | |
|  | | | |

**PCF 6 Critical Reflection and Analysis**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Critical Reflection and Analysis -** Apply critical reflection and analysis to inform and provide a rationale for professional decision-making. | **E** | **N** | **R** |
| Social workers are knowledgeable about and apply the principles of critical thinking and reasoned discernment. They identify, distinguish, evaluate and integrate multiple sources of knowledge and evidence. These include practice evidence, their own practice experience, service user and carer experience together with research-based, organisational, policy and legal knowledge. They use critical thinking augmented by creativity and curiosity. |  |  |  |
| **Comments** | | | |
|  | | | |

**PCF 7 Intervention and Skills**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Intervention and Skills -** Use judgement and authority to intervene with individuals, families and communities to promote independence, provide support and prevent harm, neglect and abuse. | **E** | **N** | **R** |
| Social workers engage with individuals, families, groups and communities, working alongside people to assess and intervene. They enable effective relationships and are effective communicators, using appropriate skills. Using their professional judgement, they employ a range of interventions: promoting independence, providing support and protection, taking preventative action and ensuring safety whilst balancing rights and risks. They understand and take account of differentials in power, and are able to use authority appropriately. They evaluate their own practice and the outcomes for those they work with. |  |  |  |
| **Comments** | | | |
|  | | | |

**PCF 8 Contexts and Organisations**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Contexts and Organisations -** Engage with, inform, and adapt to changing contexts that shape practice. Operate effectively within own organisational frameworks and contribute to the development of services and organisations. Operate effectively within multi-agency and inter-professional partnerships and settings. | **E** | **N** | **R** |
| Social workers are informed about and pro-actively responsive to the challenges and opportunities that come with changing social contexts and constructs. They fulfil this responsibility in accordance with their professional values and ethics, both as individual professionals and as members of the organisation in which they work. They collaborate, inform and are informed by their work with others, inter-professionally and with communities. |  |  |  |
| **Comments** | | | |
|  | | | |

**PCF 9 Professional Leadership**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Professional Leadership -** Take responsibility for the professional learning and development of others through supervision, mentoring, assessing, research, teaching, leadership and management. | **E** | **N** | **R** |
| The social work profession evolves through the contribution of its members in activities such as practice research, supervision, assessment of practice, teaching and management. An individual’s contribution will gain influence when undertaken as part of a learning, practice-focused organisation. Learning may be facilitated with a wide range of people including social work colleagues, service users and carers, volunteers, foster carers and other professionals. |  |  |  |
| **Comments** | | | |
|  | | | |

|  |
| --- |
| Overall capability at interim stage (maximum 300 words) |
|  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Any **issues or circumstances** to be taken into account?  (Placement, e.g. PE, PE changes or organisational factors  Student, e.g. health, personal circumstances) | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Any action to be taken? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Include brief details | | |
|  | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Are there any **concerns** about the student’s development? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Any action to be taken? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Include brief details | | |
|  | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Is the student on track to **pass** the placement? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Any action to be taken? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Include brief details | | |
|  | | |

|  |
| --- |
| PE2 Mentor’s comments (if applicable, maximum 200 words) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| On Site Supervisor Comments (if applicable, maximum 200 words) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Student’s Comments (maximum 200 words) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Tutor’s Comments (maximum 200 words) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Plans and continuing/additional learning opportunities for second half of placement. Please refer to domain assessments as appropriate (maximum 200 words) |
|  |

***Leeds Beckett University***

Student, please scan the completed and signed report and upload this to the appropriate domain on the PCF Development page of your placement workbook on PebblePad.

**University of Leeds**

***Practice Educator***, please scan and email this completed and signed report to

[placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk)

***Student***, please print off a copy of this completed and signed report to be placed in your portfolio

## Final Report for First (70-day) and Final (100-day) Placement

**Final Report**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Recommendation of PASS or FAIL** |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Placement Dates | Start date |  | End date |  |
| Number of days the student has completed on placement | | | |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student Full Name |  | | | |
| University | Leeds Beckett University | |  | |
| University of Leeds | |  | |
| Programme | BA |  | MA |  |
| Placement | First |  | Final |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Local Authority / Agency | Leeds Adult |  | Leeds Children |  |
| Wakefield Adult |  | Wakefield Children |  |
| Agency (please add) |  | | |
| Team Name |  | | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Role** | **Signature** (as appropriate) | **Date** |
| Practice Educator |  |  |
| PE2 Mentor |  |  |
| On Site Supervisor |  |  |
| Stude |  |  |
| Tutor |  |  |

**Practice Educator** - Please email an additional copy of the completed report direct to:

***Leeds Beckett University*** [socialworkplacements@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:socialworkplacements@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

***University of Leeds*** [placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk)

|  |
| --- |
| Brief summary of student workload |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Evidence of three direct observations |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Evidence of Service User feedback |
|  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Any **issues or circumstances** to be taken into account?  (Placement, e.g. PE, PE changes or organisational factors  Student, e.g. health, personal circumstances) | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Any action to be taken? | Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Include brief details | | |
|  | | |

**Assessment of student’s ability to evidence the PCF. Please comment on how the student has met the nine domains of the PCF to the required level for end of first or final placement.**

Guideline – a maximum of 250 words for each PCF domain and 500 words for the overall holistic assessment. NB There may be particular circumstances where the Practice Educator needs to write more.

**PCF 1 Professionalism**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment | | | |
|  | | | |
| Evidence used to support judgement | | | |
|  | | | |
| Capability at level for this placement | | | |
| Demonstrated |  | Not demonstrated |  |

**PCF 2 Values & Ethics**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment | | | |
|  | | | |
| Evidence used to support judgement | | | |
|  | | | |
| Capability at level for this placement | | | |
| Demonstrated |  | Not demonstrated |  |

**PCF 3 Diversity**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment | | | |
|  | | | |
| Evidence used to support judgement | | | |
|  | | | |
| Capability at level for this placement | | | |
| Demonstrated |  | Not demonstrated |  |

**PCF 4 Rights, Justice and Economic Wellbeing**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment | | | |
|  | | | |
| Evidence used to support judgement | | | |
|  | | | |
| Capability at level for this placement | | | |
| Demonstrated |  | Not demonstrated |  |

**PCF 5 Knowledge**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment | | | |
|  | | | |
| Evidence used to support judgement | | | |
|  | | | |
| Capability at level for this placement | | | |
| Demonstrated |  | Not demonstrated |  |

**PCF 6 Critical Reflection and Analysis**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment | | | |
|  | | | |
| Evidence used to support judgement | | | |
|  | | | |
| Capability at level for this placement | | | |
| Demonstrated |  | Not demonstrated |  |

**PCF 7 Intervention and Skills**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment | | | |
|  | | | |
| Evidence used to support judgement | | | |
|  | | | |
| Capability at level for this placement | | | |
| Demonstrated |  | Not demonstrated |  |

**PCF 8 Contexts and Organisations**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment | | | |
|  | | | |
| Evidence used to support judgement | | | |
|  | | | |
| Capability at level for this placement | | | |
| Demonstrated |  | Not demonstrated |  |

**PCF 9 Professional Leadership**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment | | | |
|  | | | |
| Evidence used to support judgement | | | |
|  | | | |
| Capability at level for this placement | | | |
| Demonstrated |  | Not demonstrated |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Overall Summary of the Holistic Assessment (maximum 500 words) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Please provide clear learning needs and objectives for future development.  Please refer to PCF at first placement and PCF and KSS at final placement. |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| PE1 / PE2 in training; PE2 / PE2 Mentor; Practice Supervisor comments on report (as applicable) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Student’s comments |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Tutor comments |
|  |

For Final (100-day) placements only

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Permission to share this report with potential employers**  I agree to Leeds Beckett University or the University of Leeds sharing the contents of this report with potential employers to whom the student may apply for employment | | |
| **Role** | **Signature** | **Date** |
| Practice Educator |  |  |
| Student |  |  |

**Leeds Beckett University**

***Practice Educator***, please scan and submit this completed and signed report to

[socialworkplacements@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:socialworkplacements@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

***Student***, please scan the completed and signed report and upload this to the appropriate domain on the PCF Development page of your placement workbook on PebblePad

**University of Leeds**

***Practice Educator***, please scan and email this completed and signed report to

[placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk)

***Student***, please print off a copy of this completed and signed report to be placed in your portfolio

## Action Plan Template

If a student is struggling on placement an action plan should be considered at the earliest opportunity setting realistic and measurable targets for the student to be able to evidence improvement. This form should be completed by the tutor in conjunction with the PE & Student. Please refer to the Practice Curriculum (Leeds Beckett only) and PCF.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student Full Name |  | | | |
| University | Leeds Beckett University | |  | |
| University of Leeds | |  | |
| Course / Programme | BA |  | MA |  |
| Placement | First (70-day) |  | Final (100-day) |  |
| University Tutor |  | | | |
| Date of Initial meeting |  | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Local Authority / Agency | Leeds Adult |  | Leeds Children |  |
| Wakefield Adult |  | Wakefield Children |  |
| Agency (please add) |  | | |
| Practice Educator Name |  | | | |
| No of days completed |  | | | |

|  |
| --- |
| **Summary** |
| Strengths identified in placement |
|  |
| Areas for development identified by the PE, Student and Tutor (based on PCF domains) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Any additional information that needs to be considered |
|  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action Plan**  This should be task centred and include both areas that the student will address and the support that will be offered to the student to do so | | |
| Action to be taken | By whom | By when |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action Plan Review Meeting**  Failure to engage with the Plan may lead to the student being withdrawn from placement | |
| Date of Review |  |
| Details | |
|  | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcome Statement** | | | |
| The student has satisfactorily completed the Action Plan | | |  |
| Further action is required and is detailed in the review above | | |  |
| PE Signature |  | Date |  |
| Tutor Signature |  | Date |  |
| Student Signature |  | Date |  |

Tutor: please forward a copy of this completed form to:

LBU - [socialworkplacements@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:socialworkplacements@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

UoL – [placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:placements@healthcare.leeds.ac.uk)

*Version Control: LBU February 2020, LWSWTP agreed March 2020*

## Transition to ADULTS ASYE - Initial Assessment Knowledge and Skills Statement

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student Full Name |  | | | | | | |
| University | Leeds Beckett University | | | |  | | |
| University of Leeds | | | |  | | |
| Course / Programme | BA |  | | | MA |  | |
| Team Name |  | | | | | | |
| Local Authority / Agency | Leeds Adult | |  | Leeds Children | | |  |
| Wakefield Adult | |  | Wakefield Children | | |  |
| Agency (please add) | |  | | | | |

Please complete this self-evaluation of your practice experience towards the end of your final (100-day) placement based on the Knowledge and Skills Statements (KSS). Discuss this with your PE and add to your placement portfolio (LBU: PebblePad; UoL: paper folder). Please take this completed form to your first supervision when you commence your employment as a NQSW.

A social worker in adult services should be able to do the following:

**1) Statement Overview**

This statement sets out what a social worker working with adults should know and be able to do by the end of their Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE).

**2) The Role of Social Workers working with Adults**

The Care Act 2014 puts the principle of individual wellbeing and professional practice of the individual social worker at the heart of adult social care and signals a move away from care management as the overriding approach to working with adults.

Social workers need to apply a wide range of knowledge and skills to understand and build relationships, and work directly with individuals, their families and carers to enable and empower them to achieve best outcomes. This should include undertaking assessments, planning care and support and making the best use of available resources to enable people to have better lives. Social workers should enable people to experience personalised, integrated care and support them to maintain their independence and wellbeing, cope with change, attain the outcomes they want and need, understand and manage risk, and participate in the life of their communities.

Social work should focus on the links between the individual, their health and well-being and their need for relationships and connection with their families, community and wider society. Social workers in adult social care must understand and be able to explain the role of social work as part of the system of health and welfare support to individuals and families. They must understand the impact of poverty, inequality and diversity on social and economic opportunities and how these relate to people’s health and wellbeing as well as the functioning of their families, particularly in connection with child protection, adult safeguarding and also empowering individuals who may lack mental capacity.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

**3) Person Centred Practice**

Social workers should enable people to access the advice, support and services to which they are entitled. They should coordinate and facilitate a wide range of practical and emotional support, and discharge legal duties to complement people’s own resources and networks, so that all individuals (no matter their background, health status or mental capacity), carers and families can exercise choice and control, (supporting individuals to make their own decisions, especially where they may lack capacity) and meet their needs and aspirations in personalised, creative and often novel ways. They should work co-productively and innovatively with people, local communities, other professionals, agencies and services to promote self-determination, community capacity, personal and family reliance, cohesion, earlier intervention and active citizenship. Social workers should also engage with and enable access to advocacy for people who may require help to secure the support and care they need due to physical or mental ill-health, sensory or communication impairment, learning disability, mental incapacity, frailty or a combination of these conditions and their physical, psychological and social consequences.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

**4) Safeguarding**

Social workers must be able to recognise the risk indicators of different forms of abuse and neglect and their impact on individuals, their families or their support networks and should prioritise the protection of children and adults in vulnerable situations whenever necessary. This includes working with those who self-neglect.

Social workers who work with adults must take an outcomes-focused, person-centred approach to safeguarding practice, recognising that people are experts in their own lives and working alongside them to identify person centred solutions to risk and harm. In situations where there is abuse or neglect or clear risk of those, social workers must work in a way that enhances involvement, choice and control as part of improving quality of life, wellbeing and safety. Social workers should take the lead in managing positive interventions that prevent deterioration in health and wellbeing; safeguard people (who may or may not be socially excluded) at risk of abuse or neglect, or who are subject to discrimination, and to take necessary action where someone poses a risk to themselves, their children or other people.

Social workers who work with adults must be able to recognise and take appropriate action where they come across situations where a child or young person may be at risk. Social workers should understand and apply in practice personalised approaches to safeguarding adults that maximise the adult’s opportunity to determine and realise their desired outcomes and to safeguard themselves effectively, with support where necessary.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

**5) Mental Capacity**

Social workers must have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and Code of Practice and be able to apply these in practice. They should always begin from the presumption that individuals have capacity to make the decision in question.

Social workers should understand how to make a capacity assessment, the decision and time specific nature of capacity and hence the need to reassess capacity appropriately. They should know when and how to refer to a Best Interest Assessor.

Social workers must understand their responsibilities for people who are assessed as lacking capacity at a particular time and must ensure that they are supported to be involved in decisions about themselves and their care as far as is possible. Where they are unable to be involved in the decision-making process decisions should be taken in their best interests following consultation with all appropriate parties, including families and carers. Social workers must seek to ensure that an individual’s care plan is the least restrictive possible to achieve the intended outcomes.

Social workers have a key leadership role in modelling to other professionals the proper application of the MCA. Key to this is the understanding that the MCA exists to empower those who lack capacity as much as it exists to protect them. Social workers must model and lead a change of approach, away from that where the default setting is “safety first”, towards a person-centred culture where individual choice is encouraged and where the right of all individuals to express their own lifestyle choices is recognised and valued.

In working with those where there is no concern over capacity, social workers should take all practicable steps to empower people to make their own decisions, recognising that people are experts in their own lives and working alongside them to identify person-centred solutions to risk and harm, recognising the individual’s right to make “unwise” decisions.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

**6) Effective Assessments and Outcome Based Support Planning**

In undertaking assessments, social workers must be able to recognise the expertise of the diverse people with whom they work and their carers, and apply this to develop personalised assessment and care plans that enable the individual to determine and achieve the outcomes they want for themselves. The social worker must ensure the individual’s views, wishes and feelings (including those who may lack mental capacity) are included as part of their full participation in decision making, balancing this with the wellbeing of their carers. Social workers should demonstrate a good understanding of personalisation, the social model of disability and of human development throughout life and demonstrate a holistic approach to the identification of needs, circumstances, rights, strengths and risks. In particular, social workers need to understand the impact of trauma, loss and abuse, physical disability, physical ill health, learning disability, mental ill health, physical, cognitive, emotional and social development both for the individual and for the mental capacity, substance misuse, domestic abuse, aging and end of life issues on functioning of the family. They should recognise the roles and needs of informal or family carers and use holistic, systemic approaches to supporting individuals and carers. They should develop and maintain knowledge and good partnerships with local community resources in order to work effectively with individuals in connecting them with appropriate resources and support.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

**7) Direct Work with Individuals and Families**

Social workers need to be able to work directly with individuals and their families through the professional use of self, using interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence to create relationships based on openness, transparency and empathy. They should know how to build purposeful, effective relationships underpinned by reciprocity. They should be able to communicate clearly, sensitively and effectively, applying a range of best evidence-based methods of written, oral and non-verbal communication and adapt these methods to match the person’s age, comprehension and culture. Social workers should be capable of communicating effectively with people with specific communication needs, including those with learning disabilities, dementia, people who lack mental capacity and people with sensory impairment. They should do this in ways that are engaging, respectful, motivating and effective, even when dealing with conflict - whether perceived or actual - anger and resistance to change. Social workers should have a high level of skill in applying evidence-based, effective social work approaches to help service users and families handle change, especially where individuals and families are in transition, including young people moving to adulthood, supporting them to move to different living arrangements and understanding the impact of loss and change.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

**8) Supervision, Critical Reflection and Analysis**

Social workers must have access to regular, good quality supervision and understand its importance in providing advice and support. They should know how and when to seek advice from a range of sources including named supervisors, senior social workers and other professionals. They should be able to make effective use of opportunities to discuss, reflect upon and test multiple hypotheses, the role of intuition and logic in decision making, the difference between opinion and fact, the role of evidence, how to address common bias in situations of uncertainty and the reasoning of any conclusions reached and recommendations made, particularly in relation to mental capacity, mental health and safeguarding situations.

Social workers should have a critical understanding of the difference between theory, research, evidence and expertise and the role of professional judgement. They should use practice evidence and research to inform the complex judgements and decisions needed to support, empower and protect their service users. They should apply imagination, creativity and curiosity to working in partnership with individuals and their carers, acknowledging the centrality of people’s own expertise about their experience and needs.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

**9) Organisational Context**

Social workers working with adults should be able confidently to fulfil their statutory responsibilities, work within their organisation’s remit and contribute to its development. They must be understanding and work effectively within financial and legal frameworks, obligations, structures and culture, in particular Human Rights and Equalities legislation, the Care Act, Mental Capacity Act, Mental Health Act and accompanying guidance and codes of practice. They must be able to operate successfully in their organisational context, demonstrating effective time management, caseload management and be capable of reconciling competing demands and embrace information, data and technology appropriate to their role. They should have access to regular quality supervision to support their professional resilience and emotional and physical wellbeing. Social workers should work effectively and confidently with fellow professionals in inter-agency, multi-disciplinary and inter-professional groups and demonstrate effective partnership working particularly in the context of health and social care integration and at the interface between health, children and adult social care and the third sector.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

**10) Professional Ethics and Leadership**

Social workers should be able to explain their role to stakeholders, particularly health and community partners, and challenge partners constructively to effect multi-agency working. They should contribute to developing awareness of personalisation and outcome-based approaches to improving people’s lives. Social workers should be able to demonstrate the principles of social work through professional judgement, decision making and actions within a framework of professional accountability. They should be able to work collaboratively to manage effectively the sometimes competing interests of service users, their families and their carers ensuring that the needs of all parties are appropriately balanced, but that where children are involved, the children’s interests are always paramount. They should be able to acknowledge the inherent tensions where there is a dual role of care and control; be able to meet eligible needs within limited resources and manage the emotions and expectations of service users and carers. They should be able to identify potential deprivations of liberty and understand the process for assessing and authorising these in individuals’ best interests. They should feedback the views and experiences of clients and their colleagues to contribute to the continued improvement of services, policies and procedures within the organisation. They must be able to recognise and address poor practice and systemic failings which put people at risk, whether in their own organisation or the organisations and institutions with which they are working, making appropriate use of whistle-blowing procedures.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

## Transition to CHILDREN’S ASYE Initial Assessment Knowledge and Skills Statement

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student Full Name |  | | | | | | |
| University | Leeds Beckett University | | | |  | | |
| University of Leeds | | | |  | | |
| Course / Programme | BA |  | | | MA |  | |
| Team Name |  | | | | | | |
| Local Authority / Agency | Leeds Adult | |  | Leeds Children | | |  |
| Wakefield Adult | |  | Wakefield Children | | |  |
| Agency (please name) | |  | | | | |

Please complete this self-evaluation of your practice experience towards the end of your final (100-day) placement based on the Knowledge and Skills Statements (KSS). Please discuss this with your PE and add to your placement portfolio (LBU: PebblePad; UoL: paper folder). Please take this completed form to your first supervision when you commence your employment as a NQSW.

**A child and family social worker should be able to do the following:**

**1) Relationships and effective direct work**

Build effective relationships with children, young people and families, which form the bedrock of all support and child protection responses. Be both authoritative and empathic and work in partnership with children, families and professionals, enabling full participation in assessment, planning, review and decision making. Ensure child protection is always privileged. Provide support based on best evidence, which is tailored to meet individual child and family needs, and which addresses relevant and significant risks. Secure access to services, negotiating and challenging other professionals and organisations to provide the help required. Ensure children and families, including children in public care; receive the support to which they are entitled.

Support children and families in transition, including children and young people moving to and between placements, those returning home, those being adopted or moving through to independence. Help children to separate from, and sustain, multiple relationships recognising the impact of loss and change.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |

**2) Communication**

Communicate clearly and sensitively with children of different ages and abilities, their families and in a range of settings and circumstances. Use methods based on best evidence. Create immediate rapport with people not previously known which facilitates engagement and motivation to participate in child protection enquiries, assessments and services. Act respectfully even when people are angry, hostile and resistant to change. Manage tensions between parents, carers and family members, in ways that show persistence, determination and professional confidence. Listen to the views, wishes and feelings of children and families and help parents and carers understand the ways in which their children communicate through their behaviour. Help them to understand how they might communicate more effectively with their children. Promote speech, language and communication support, identifying those children and adults who are experiencing difficulties expressing themselves. Produce written case notes and reports, which are well argued, focused, and jargon free. Present a clear analysis and a sound rationale for actions as well as any conclusions reached, so that all parties are well informed.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |  | Partially Met |  |
| Please provide examples to support your assessment (a maximum of 3) | | | | | |
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| Personal Development objectives for ASYE year | | | | | |
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**3) Child development**

Observe and talk to children in their environment including at home, at school, with parents, carers, friends and peers to help understand the physical and emotional world in which the child lives, including the quality of child and parent/carer interaction and other key relationships.

Establish the pattern of development for the child, promote optimal child development and be alert to signs that may indicate that the child is not meeting key developmental milestones, has been harmed or is at risk of harm.

Take account of typical age-related physical, cognitive, social, emotional and behavioural development over time, accepting that normative developmental tasks are different for each child depending on the interaction for that child between health, environmental and genetic factors. Assess the influence of cultural and social factors on child development, the effect of different parenting styles, and the effect of loss, change and uncertainty in the development of resilience. Explore the extent to which behavioural and emotional development may also be a result of communication difficulties, ill health or disability, adjusting practice to take account of these differences. Seek further advice from relevant professionals to fully understand a child’s development and behaviour.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

*Has this statement been met from previous experience or qualifying training?*

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**4) Adult mental ill health, substance misuse, domestic abuse, physical ill health and disability**

Identify the impact of adult mental ill health, substance misuse, domestic abuse, physical ill health and disability on family functioning and social circumstances and in particular the effect on children, including those who are young carers. Access the help and assistance of other professionals in the identification and prevention of adult social need and risk, including mental health and learning disability assessment. Coordinate emergency and routine services and synthesise multi-disciplinary judgements as part of ongoing social work assessment. Use a range of strategies to help families facing these difficulties. Identify concerning adult behaviours that may indicate risk or increasing risk to children. Assess the likely impact on, and inter-relationship between, parenting and child development. Recognise and act upon escalating social needs and risks, helping to ensure that vulnerable adults are safeguarded and that a child is protected and their best interests always prioritised.

***INITIAL ASSESSMENT***

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**5) Abuse and neglect of children**

Exchange information with partner agencies about children and adults where there is concern about the safety and welfare of children. Triangulate evidence to ensure robust conclusions are drawn. Recognise harm and the risk indicators of different forms of harm to children relating to sexual, physical, emotional abuse and neglect. Take into account the long-term effects of cumulative harm, particularly in relation to early indicators of neglect. Consider the possibility of child sexual exploitation, grooming (on and offline), female genital mutilation and enforced marriage and the range of adult behaviours which pose a risk to children, recognising too the potential for children to be perpetrators of abuse. Lead the investigation of allegations of significant harm to children in consultation with other professionals and practice supervisors. Draw one’s own conclusions about the likelihood of, for example, sexual abuse or non-accidental injury having occurred and the extent to which any injury is consistent with the explanation offered. Commission a second professional opinion and take legal advice where necessary.

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**6) Child and family assessment**

Carry out in-depth and ongoing family assessment of social need and risk to children, with particular emphasis on parental capacity and capability to change. Use professional curiosity and authority while maintaining a position of partnership, involving all key family members, including fathers. Acknowledge any conflict between parental and children’s interests, prioritising the protection of children as set out in legislation. Use child observation skills, genograms, ecomaps, chronologies and other evidence-based tools ensuring active child and family participation in the process. Incorporate the contributions that other professional disciplines make to social work assessments. Hold an empathic position about difficult social circumstances experienced by children and families, taking account of the relationship between poverty and social deprivation, and the effect of stress on family functioning, providing help and support. Take into account individual child and family history and how this might affect the ability of adults and children to engage with services. Recognise and address behaviour that may indicate resistance to change, ambivalent or selective cooperation with services, and recognise when there is a need for immediate action, and what other steps can be taken to protect children.

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**7) Analysis, decision-making, planning and review**

Establish the seriousness that different risks present and any harm already suffered by a child, balanced with family strengths and potential solutions. Set out the best options for resolving difficulties facing the family and each child, considering the risk of future harm and its consequences and the likelihood of successful change. Prioritise children’s need for emotional warmth, stability and sense of belonging, particularly those in public care, as well as identity development, health and education, ensuring active participation and positive engagement of the child and family. Test multiple hypotheses about what is happening in families and to children, using evidence and professional judgement to reach timely conclusions. Challenge any prevailing professional conclusions in the light of new evidence or practice reflection. Make realistic, child centred, plans within a review timeline, which will manage and reduce identified risks and meet the needs of the child. Ensure sufficient multi-disciplinary input into the process at all stages. Apply twin and triple track planning to minimise chances of drift or delay, being alert to the effectiveness or otherwise of current support plans.

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**8) The law and the family and youth justice systems**

Navigate the family and youth justice systems in England using legal powers and duties to support families, to protect children and to look after children in the public care system, including the regulatory frameworks that support the full range of permanence options. Participate in decisions about whether to make an application to the family court, the order to be applied for, and the preparation and presentation of evidence.

Seek advice and second opinion as required in relation to the wide range of legal issues which frequently face children and families involved with statutory services including immigration, housing, welfare benefits, mental health and learning disability assessment, education and support for children with learning difficulties. Use the law, regulatory and statutory guidance to inform practice decisions. Take into account the complex relationship between professional ethics, the application of the law and the impact of social policy on both.

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**9) The role of supervision**

Recognise one’s own professional limitations and how and when to seek advice from a range of sources, including practice supervisors, senior practice leaders and other clinical practitioners from a range of disciplines such as psychiatry, paediatrics and psychology. Discuss, debate, reflect upon and test hypotheses about what is happening within families, and with children. Explore the potential for bias in decision-making and resolve tensions emerging from, for example, ethical dilemmas, conflicting information or differing professional positions. Identify which methods will be of help for a specific child or family and the limitations of different approaches. Make use of the best evidence from research to inform the complex judgements and decisions needed to support families and protect children. Reflect on the emotional experience of working relationships with parents, carers and children, and consciously identify where personal triggers are affecting the quality of analysis or help. Identify strategies to build professional resilience and management of self.

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**10) Organisational context**

Operate successfully in a wide range of organisational contexts complying with the checks and balances within local and national systems which are a condition of employment. Maintain personal and professional credibility through effective working relationships with peers, managers and leaders both within the profession, throughout multi-agency partnerships and public bodies, including the family courts.

Act in ways that protect the reputation of the employer organisation and the social work profession, whilst always privileging the best interests of children. Manage the specific set of organisational tasks relating to lead responsibility for children with the support of an appropriately qualified supervisor and use of the multi-agency support network.

Contribute to the organisation’s role as corporate parent to children in public care, encouraging and advocating for organisational focus, resource and support so that children and young people can thrive and enjoy their childhood and move into independence with confidence in and ambition for their futures.

*INITIAL ASSESSMENT*

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