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Programme Major Modification report

Section one

Programme provider name:	Buckinghamshire New University
Programmes reviewed: *This is the NMC programme title(s)*	Independent and supplementary nurse prescribing V300 ☒ Community practitioner nurse prescribing V150 ☐ Community practitioner nurse prescribing V100 ☐
AEI programme title(s):	
Current AEI programme title(s): *Please include all currently approved programme titles*	Non-Medical Prescribing (V300) Community Practitioner Nurse Prescribing - V100
Modified AEI programme title(s) if applicable: *Please include new title(s) if current AEI programme title(s) are being modified as a result of this modification or add N/A*	Non-Medical Prescribing Level 6 Non-Medical Prescribing Level 7
Additional AEI programme title(s) if applicable: *Please include any additional AEI programme title(s) for approval as a result of this modification (for example new routes being added that have a different title to those already approved) or add N/A*	N/A
Academic level of current programme:	
Independent and supplementary nurse prescribing V300	England, Wales, Northern Ireland ☐ Level 5 ☒ Level 6 ☒ Level 7 SCQF ☐ Level 8 ☐ Level 9 ☐ Level 10

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	☐ Level 11 ☐ N/A
Community practitioner nurse prescribing V150	**England, Wales, Northern Ireland** ☐ Level 5 ☐ Level 6 ☐ Level 7 **SCQF** ☐ Level 8 ☐ Level 9 ☐ Level 10 ☐ Level 11 ☒ N/A
Community practitioner nurse prescribing V100	**England, Wales, Northern Ireland** ☐ Level 5 ☒ Level 6 ☐ Level 7 **SCQF** ☐ Level 8 ☐ Level 9 ☐ Level 10 ☐ Level 11 ☐ N/A
Academic levels of modified/additional programme(s)/route(s):	
Independent and supplementary nurse prescribing V300	**England, Wales, Northern Ireland** ☐ Level 5 ☒ Level 6 ☒ Level 7 **SCQF** ☐ Level 8 ☐ Level 9 ☐ Level 10 ☐ Level 11 ☐ N/A
Community practitioner nurse prescribing V150	**England, Wales, Northern Ireland** ☐ Level 5 ☐ Level 6 ☐ Level 7 **SCQF** ☐ Level 8 ☐ Level 9 ☐ Level 10 ☐ Level 11

	☒ N/A
Community practitioner nurse prescribing V100	**England, Wales, Northern Ireland** ☐ Level 5 ☐ Level 6 ☐ Level 7 **SCQF** ☐ Level 8 ☐ Level 9 ☐ Level 10 ☐ Level 11 ☒ N/A

Programme approval dates:	
Date of NMC approval of the programme being modified: *This is the approval date under the most recent NMC standards.*	18 March 2021
Date(s) of NMC approval of any modifications since last approval:	10 November 2021

Programme start dates:	
Current modification programme start date: Independent and supplementary nurse prescribing V300 Community practitioner nurse prescribing V150 Community practitioner nurse prescribing V100	23 September 2024 N/A N/A
Date of modification:	2 October 2023
Type of modification:	Desktop
QA visitor:	Registrant Visitor: Mike Kitching

Section two

Summary of review and findings
Buckinghamshire New University (BNU) (the university) is an approved education institution (AEI) delivering a range of Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) programmes. BNU present a major modification of the approved non-medical prescribing (V300) programme for NMC approval. The community practitioner nurse prescribing - V100 is also in approval and unaffected by this modification. The current approved V300 programme is delivered part time and can be taken as a short (15-week) or long (30-week) programme. The programme is a blended learning format of 11 taught days and three assessment days incorporating self-directed and directed study. The delivery of the prescribing programme in a blended learning format of 16 days of teaching activity, (inclusive of eight days in person) over 20 weeks delivered part time is unchanged through this modification. There's a modification of programme structure from a level six 60-credit graduate certificate programme consisting of one 60-credit module to a level six 40-credit graduate certificate programme consisting of two 20-credit modules. The level seven 60-credit post-graduate certificate programme consisting of one 60-credit module is modified to a level seven 40-credit programme consisting of two 20-credit modules. As part of the proposed modification, practice assessors conduct practical skills assessment in practice learning settings. The practice assessment document (PAD) is revised to include this as part of programme. BNU deliver the non-medical prescribing (V300) programme at both Uxbridge and High Wycombe campuses. There's evidence to confirm that BNU is committed to partnership working with stakeholders including people who use services and carers (PUSCs), practice learning partners (PLPs) and students in the development, delivery and evaluation of the programme at both strategic and operational levels. A change in AEI programme title is proposed to non-medical prescribing level six with the additional title of non-medical prescribing level seven. One BNU practice learning environment is rated as inadequate from review of Care Quality Commission (CQC) reports. BNU provide evidence of a robust process for communication with PLPs and the NMC exceptional reporting process. Action plans are in place to mitigate against the impact on student learning.

BNU have systems in place to monitor the equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) of their students, including attainment by ethnicity and disability. The AEI have an EDI framework and governance structure and there are school and programme level action plans to address gaps in attainment.

This modification is undertaken as a desktop review.

The programme is mapped against the Standards for prescribing programmes (SPP) (NMC 2018, updated 2023).

The Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education (SFNME) (NMC, 2018) is met at programme level.

The Standards for student supervision and assessment (SSSA) (NMC 2018, updated 2023) are met at programme level.

The programme modification is recommended to the NMC for approval.

Recommended outcome of the approval panel	
Recommended outcome to the NMC:	Programme is recommended to the NMC for approval ☒ Programme is recommended for approval subject to specific conditions being met ☐ Recommended to refuse approval of the programme ☐
Conditions:	**Effective partnership working: collaboration, culture, communication and resources:** None identified. **Selection, admission and progression:** None identified. **Practice learning:** None identified. **Assessment, fitness for practice and award:**

	None identified. **Education governance: management and quality assurance:** None identified.
Date condition(s) to be met:	N/A
Recommendations to enhance the programme delivery:	None identified.
Focused areas for future monitoring:	None identified.

Programme is recommended for approval subject to specific conditions being met		
Commentary post review of evidence against conditions N/A		
AEI Observations	Observations have been made by the education institution YES ⊠ NO ☐	
Summary of observations made, if applicable	The AEI confirms the programme titles as Non-Medical Prescribing Level 6 Non-Medical Prescribing Level 7 Not Non-Medical Prescribing Level six Non-Medical Prescribing Level seven	
Final recommendation made to NMC:	Programme is recommended to the NMC for approval ⊠ Recommended to refuse approval of the programme ☐	
Date condition(s) met:	N/A	

Section three

NMC Programme standards
Please refer to NMC standards reference points *Standards for prescribing programmes* (NMC 2018, updated 2023) *Standards of proficiency for nurse and midwife prescriber (adoption of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) Competency Framework for all Prescribers)* (NMC, 2021) *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* (NMC 2018, updated 2023) *Standards for student supervision and assessment* (NMC 2018, updated 2023) *The Code: Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses, midwives and nursing associates* (NMC, 2015 updated 2018) *Quality assurance framework for nursing, midwifery and nursing associate education* (NMC, 2020) *QA Handbook* (NMC, 2022)

Partnerships
The AEI works in partnership with their practice learning partners, people who use services, students and all other stakeholders.
Please refer to the following NMC standards reference points for this section: *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* (NMC 2018, updated 2023) **Standard 1: The learning culture:** R1.12 ensure programmes are designed, developed, delivered, evaluated and co-produced with people who use services and other stakeholders R1.13 work with service providers to demonstrate and promote inter-professional learning and working **Standard 2: Educational governance and quality:** R2.2 ensure programmes are designed to meet proficiencies and outcomes relevant to the programme R2.4 comply with NMC *Standards for student supervision and assessment* R2.5 adopt a partnership approach with shared responsibility for theory and practice supervision, learning and assessment, including clear lines of communication and accountability for the development, delivery, quality assurance and evaluation of their programmes R2.6 ensure that recruitment and selection of students is open, fair and transparent and includes measures to understand and address underrepresentation R2.7 ensure that people who use services and representatives from relevant stakeholder groups are engaged in partnership in student recruitment and selection

Standard 3: Student empowerment:

R3.3 have opportunities throughout their programme to work with and learn from a range of people in a variety of practice placements, preparing them to provide care to people with diverse needs

R3.16 have opportunities throughout their programme to collaborate and learn with and from other professionals, to learn with and from peers, and to develop supervision and leadership skills

R3.17 receive constructive feedback throughout the programme from stakeholders with experience of the programme to promote and encourage reflective learning

R3.18 have opportunities throughout their programme to give feedback on the quality of all aspects of their support and supervision in both theory and practice.

Standard 4: Educators and assessors:

R4.7 liaise and collaborate with colleagues and partner organisations in their approach to supervision and assessment

R4.9 receive and act upon constructive feedback from students and the people they engage with to enhance the effectiveness of their teaching, supervision and assessment

R4.10 share effective practice and learn from others

Standard 5: Curricula and assessment:

R5.4 curricula are developed and evaluated by suitably experienced and qualified educators and practitioners who are accountable for ensuring that the curriculum incorporates relevant programme outcomes

R5.5 curricula are co-produced with stakeholders who have experience relevant to the programme

R5.14 a range of people including people who use services contribute to student assessment

Standards for student supervision and assessment (NMC 2018, updated 2023)

Standard 1: Organisation of practice learning:

R1.4 there are suitable systems, processes, resources and individuals in place to ensure safe and effective coordination of learning within practice learning environments

R1.7 students are empowered to be proactive and to take responsibility for their learning

R1.8 students have opportunities to learn from a range of relevant people in practice learning environments, including users of service, registered and non-registered individuals, and other students as appropriate

Standard 2: Expectations of practice supervisors:

R2.2 there is support and oversight of practice supervision to ensure safe and effective learning

Standard 3: Practice supervisors: role and responsibilities:
R3.3 support and supervise students, providing feedback on their progress towards, and achievement of, proficiencies and skills

Standard 4: Practice supervisors: contribution to assessment and progression:
R4.3 have sufficient opportunities to engage with practice assessors and academic assessors to share relevant observations on the conduct, proficiency and achievement of the students they are supervising

Standard 7: Practice assessors: responsibilities:
R7.9 communication and collaboration between practice and academic assessors is scheduled for relevant points in programme structure and student progression

Standard 9: Academic assessors: responsibilities:
R9.6 communication and collaboration between academic and practice assessors is scheduled for relevant points in programme structure and student progression

Findings against the standard and requirements

Provide an <u>evaluative summary</u> about the effectiveness of the partnerships between the AEI and their practice learning partners, people who use services, students and any other stakeholders.

There's documentary evidence of continuous stakeholder involvement in the development and ongoing delivery of the programme.

BNU propose changes that seek to improve student accessibility to the non-medical prescribing (V300) qualification. Programme documentation confirms evidence of effective partnership working between the programme team and key stakeholders.

Documentation confirms PLPs are consulted on the proposed changes. PLPs are supportive of these developments to maximise the training opportunities for their staff to become prescribers.

Documentation confirms that PUSCs and students are supportive of the proposed changes. Documentary evidence confirms PUSCs are involved at all stages of the programme including recruitment, development, teaching and evaluation.
Further evidence confirms students are positive and supportive of the blended learning format of the programme.

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Assurance is provided that the AEI works in partnership with their practice learning partners, people who use services, students and all other stakeholders as identified in Gateway 1: *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education*		
	MET ☒	**NOT MET** ☐
Assurance is provided that the AEI works in partnership with their practice learning partners, people who use services, students and all other stakeholders as identified in Gateway 2: *Standards for student supervision and assessment*		
	MET ☒	**NOT MET** ☐

Post event review		
Identify how the condition(s) is met N/A		
Date condition(s) met: N/A		
Revised outcome after condition(s) met	**MET** ☐	**NOT MET** ☐
N/A		

Student journey through the programme
Standard 1: Selection, admission and progression
Approved education institutions, together with practice learning partners, must: R1.1 ensure that the applicant is a registered nurse (level 1), a registered midwife or a SCPHN before being considered as eligible to apply for entry onto an NMC approved prescribing programme   R1.2 provide opportunities that enable all nurse (level 1), midwife or SCPHN registrants (including NHS, self-employed or non- NHS employed registrants) to apply for entry onto an NMC approved prescribing programme   R1.3 confirm that the necessary governance structures are in place (including clinical support, access to protected learning time and employer support where appropriate) to enable students to undertake, and be adequately supported throughout, the programme   R1.4 consider recognition of prior learning that is capable of being mapped to the *RPS Competency Framework for all Prescribers*

R1.5 confirm on entry that any applicant selected to undertake a prescribing programme has the competence, experience and academic ability to study at the level required for that programme

R1.6 confirm that the applicant is capable of safe and effective practice at a level of proficiency appropriate to the programme to be undertaken and their intended area of prescribing practice in the following areas:

R1.6.1 Clinical/health assessment

R1.6.2 Diagnostics/care management

R1.6.3 Planning and evaluation of care

R1.7 ensure that applicants for V300 supplementary/independent prescribing programmes have been registered with the NMC for a minimum of one year prior to application for entry onto the programme

Note: Education institutions and their practice learning partners may propose to transfer current students onto the new programme to meet the *Standards for prescribing programmes* and *Standards of proficiency for nurse and midwife prescriber (adoption of the RPS Competency Framework for all Prescribers).* If so, evidence must be provided to support this proposed transfer as part of the education institution's mapping process at Gateway 3.

Proposed transfer of current students to the programme under review
Demonstrate a robust process to transfer current students onto the proposed programme to ensure programme learning outcomes and proficiencies meet the Standards for prescribing programmes (NMC 2018, updated 2023).

Proposed transfer of current students to the *Standards for student supervision and assessment* (NMC 2018, updated 2023).
Demonstrate a robust process to transfer current students onto the *Standards for student supervision and assessment* (NMC 2018, updated 2023).

Findings against the standard and requirements

Evidence provides assurance that the following QA approval criteria are met:

- Evidence of processes to ensure that the applicant is a registered nurse (level 1), a registered midwife or a SCPHN before being considered as eligible to apply for entry onto an NMC approved prescribing programme (R1.1)

    YES ☒   **NO** ☐

- Evidence of selection process that demonstrates opportunities that enable all nurse (level 1), midwife or SCPHN registrants (including NHS, self-employed or non-NHS employed registrants) to apply for entry onto an

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NMC approved prescribing programme. Evidence of this statement in documentation such as: programme specification; module descriptor, marketing material. Evidence of this statement on university web pages (R1.2)

YES ☒　　　**NO** ☐

Provide an <u>evaluative summary</u> from your documentary analysis and evidence AND discussion at the approval visit to demonstrate if assurance is provided that the QA approval criteria below is met or not met

- Evidence that the necessary governance structures are in place (including clinical support, access to protected learning time and employer support where appropriate) to enable students to undertake, and be adequately supported throughout, the programme (R1.3)

MET ☒　　　**NOT MET** ☐

R1.3 is met. Unchanged through this modification.

Evidence provides assurance that the following QA approval criteria are met:

- Processes are in place to consider recognition of prior learning that is capable of being mapped to the RPS *Competency Framework for all Prescribers* (R1.4)

YES ☒　　　**NO** ☐

- Processes are in place to confirm on entry that any applicant selected to undertake a prescribing programme has the competence, experience and academic ability to study at the level required for that programme (R1.5)

YES ☒　　　**NO** ☐

- Processes are in place to confirm that the applicant is capable of safe and effective practice at a level of proficiency appropriate to the programme to be undertaken and their intended area of prescribing practice in the following areas (R1.6):
  - Clinical/health assessment
  - Diagnostics/care management
  - Planning and evaluation

YES ☒　　　**NO** ☐

- Processes are in place to ensure that applicants for V300 supplementary/independent prescribing programmes have been registered with the NMC for a minimum of one year prior to application for entry onto the programme (R1.7)

YES ☒ **NO** ☐ **N/A** ☐

Proposed transfer of current students to the programme under review
From your documentary analysis and your meeting with students, provide an <u>evaluative summary</u> to confirm how the Standards for prescribing programmes and Standards of proficiency for nurse and midwife prescriber (adoption of the RPS Competency Framework for all Prescribers) will be met through the transfer of existing students onto the proposed programme. No students will be transferring to the modified programme.

Proposed transfer of current students to the Standards for student supervision and assessment (SSSA) (NMC, 2018).
From your documentary analysis and your meetings at the approval visit confirm if students will be transferring to the SSSA, and if so that they have informed choice and are fully prepared for supervision and assessment. The SSSA is embedded across all NMC programmes.
Assurance is provided that Gateway 1: *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* relevant to selection, admission and progression are met **YES** ☒ **NO** ☐

Outcome
Is the standard met? **MET** ☒ **NOT MET** ☐   **Date:** 2 October 2023
Post event review
Identify how the condition(s) is met: N/A
Date condition(s) met: N/A
Revised outcome after condition(s) met: **MET** ☐ **NOT MET** ☐ N/A

Standard 2: Curriculum

Approved educations institutions, together with practice learning partners, must:

R2.1 ensure programmes comply with the NMC *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education*

R2.2 ensure that all prescribing programmes are designed to fully deliver the competencies set out in the RPS *A Competency Framework for all Prescribers*, as necessary for safe and effective prescribing practice

R2.3 state the learning and teaching strategies that will be used to support achievement of those competencies

R2.4 develop programme outcomes that inform learning in relation to the formulary relevant to the individual's intended scope of prescribing practice:

R2.4.1 stating the general and professional content necessary to meet the programme outcomes

R2.4.2 stating the prescribing specific content necessary to meet the programme outcomes

R2.4.3 confirming that the programme outcomes can be applied to all parts of the NMC register: the four fields of nursing practice (adult, mental health, learning disabilities and children's nursing); midwifery; and specialist community public health nursing

R2.5 ensure that the curriculum provides a balance of theory and practice learning, using a range of learning and teaching strategies

R2.6 ensure technology and simulation opportunities are used effectively and proportionately across the curriculum to support supervision, learning and assessment, and

R2.7 ensure that programmes delivered in Wales comply with any legislation which supports the use of the Welsh language

Findings against the standard and requirements

Evidence provides assurance that the following QA approval criteria are met:

- There is evidence that the programme complies with the NMC Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education (R2.1)

  YES ☒   **NO** ☐

- There is evidence that the programme is designed to fully deliver the competencies set out in the RPS *Competency Framework for all Prescribers*, as necessary for safe and effective prescribing practice (R2.2).

  YES ☒   **NO** ☐

Provide an <u>evaluative summary</u> from your documentary analysis and evidence AND discussion at the approval visit to demonstrate if assurance is provided that the QA approval criteria below is met or not met

- Evidence of the learning and teaching strategies that will be used to support achievement of those competencies (R2.3)

MET ☒   **NOT MET** ☐

R2.3 is met. The modification is a structural programme change from a level six 60-credit graduate certificate programme consisting of one 60-credit module to a level six 40-credit graduate certificate programme consisting of two 20-credit modules. At level seven, a 60-credit post-graduate certificate programme consisting of one 60-credit module is now presented as a 40-credit programme consisting of two 20-credit modules.

Programme outcomes are mapped to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) competency framework for all prescribers (RPS, 2021).

The programme has a blended approach to learning and teaching. The current approved programme is delivered part time and can be taken as a short (15-week) or long (30-week) programme. The programme has 11 taught days and three assessment days incorporating self-directed and directed study in a blended learning format. The proposed modification offers the prescribing programme as a blended learning format, 16 days of teaching activity, inclusive of eight days in person over 20 weeks delivered part time.

Practice learning is evidenced through a PAD which is aligned to the RPS competency framework for all prescribers. Students undertake 90 hours of practice learning which is recorded as part of two modules, totalling 45 hours each.

As part of the proposed modification, practice assessors conduct practical skills assessment in the practice learning setting. Documentary evidence confirms BNU's decision remove objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) assessments. Developing bespoke OSCE assessments for students is no longer a viable option due to individual students' clinical areas of expertise. This assessment change builds student confidence allowing for support within their own clinical setting. The PAD is revised to include practical skills assessment as part of the module.

Documentary evidence confirms that BNU provides training and support to all practice assessors undertaking practical skills assessment for students. All practice assessors undertaking practical skills assessment in practice learning setting are supported by the BNU programme team, with in-person visits and supportive meetings using a virtual platform.

Evidence provides assurance that the following QA approval criteria are met:

- Evidence of programme outcomes that inform learning in relation to the formulary relevant to the individual's intended scope of prescribing practice (R2.4):
  - stating the general and professional content necessary to meet the programme outcomes

- stating the prescribing specific content necessary to meet the programme outcomes
- confirming that the programme outcomes can be applied to all parts of the NMC register: the four fields of nursing practice (adult, mental health, learning disabilities and children's nursing); midwifery; and specialist community public health nursing

YES ☒   **NO** ☐

- The programme structure demonstrates a balance of theory and practice learning. A range of learning and teaching strategies are detailed in the programme specification, programme handbook and module descriptor with theory / practice balance detailed. There are appropriate module aims, descriptors and outcomes specified. (R2.5)

YES ☒   **NO** ☐

Provide an <u>evaluative summary</u> from your documentary analysis and evidence AND discussion at the approval visit to demonstrate if assurance is provided that the QA approval criteria below is met or not met

- Evidence to ensure technology and simulation opportunities are used effectively and proportionately across the curriculum to support supervision, learning and assessment. (R2.6)

MET ☒   **NOT MET** ☐

R2.6 is met. Unchanged through this modification.

If relevant to the review
- Evidence to ensure that programmes delivered in Wales comply with any legislation which supports the use of the Welsh language. (R2.7)

YES ☐   **NO** ☐   **N/A** ☒

The programme is offered in England in English only.

Assurance is provided that Gateway 1: *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* relevant to curricula and assessment are met

YES ☒   **NO** ☐

Assurance is provided that Gateway 2: *Standards for student supervision and assessment* relevant to curricula are met

YES ☒   **NO** ☐

Outcome		
Is the standard met?	**MET** ☒	**NOT MET** ☐

Date: 2 October 2023

Post event review

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Identify how the condition(s) is met:
N/A

Date condition(s) met:
N/A

Revised outcome after condition(s) met: MET ☐ NOT MET ☐
N/A

Standard 3: Practice learning

Approved education institutions must:

R3.1 ensure that suitable and effective arrangements and governance for practice learning are in place for all applicants including arrangements specifically tailored to those applicants who are self-employed

Approved education institutions, together with practice learning partners, must:

R3.2 ensure that practice learning complies with the NMC *Standards for student supervision and assessment*

R3.3 ensure that students work in partnership with the education provider and their practice learning partners to arrange supervision and assessment that complies with the NMC *Standards for student supervision and assessment*

Findings against the standard and requirements

Provide an <u>evaluative summary</u> from your documentary analysis and evidence AND discussion at the approval visit to demonstrate if assurance is provided that the QA approval criteria below is met or not met

- Evidence to ensure that suitable and effective arrangements and governance for practice learning are in place for all applicants including arrangements specifically tailored to those applicants who are self-employed (R3.1).

  MET ☒ NOT MET ☐

R3.1 is met. Unchanged through this modification.

Evidence provides assurance that the following QA approval criteria are met:

- There is evidence that the programme complies with the NMC standards for student supervision and assessment (R3.2)

  YES ☒ NO ☐

Evidence provides assurance that the following QA approval criteria are met: • Processes are in place to ensure that students work in partnership with the education provider and their practice learning partners to arrange supervision and assessment that complies with the NMC *Standards for student supervision and assessment* (R3.3)   **YES** ☒   **NO** ☐

Assurance is provided that Gateway 1: *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* relevant to practice learning are met
 	
                                                   YES ☒   **NO** ☐
 	
Assurance is provided that Gateway 2: *Standards for student supervision and assessment* relevant to practice learning are met
 	
                                                   YES ☒   **NO** ☐

Outcome		
Is the standard met?	**MET** ☒	**NOT MET** ☐
Date: 2 October 2023		

Post event review
Identify how the condition(s) is met: N/A
Date condition(s) met: N/A

Revised outcome after condition(s) met:	**MET** ☐	**NOT MET** ☐
N/A		

Standard 4: Supervision and assessment
Approved education institutions, together with practice learning partners, must:

R4.1 ensure that support, supervision, learning and assessment provided complies with the NMC *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education*

R4.2 ensure that support, supervision, learning and assessment provided complies with the NMC *Standards for student supervision and assessment*

R4.3 appoint a programme leader in accordance with the requirements of the NMC *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education.* The programme leader of a prescribing programme may be any registered healthcare professional with appropriate knowledge, skills and experience

R4.4 ensure the programme leader works in conjunction with the lead midwife for education (LME) and the practice assessor to ensure adequate support for any midwives undertaking prescribing programmes

R4.5 ensure the student is assigned to a practice assessor who is a registered healthcare professional and an experienced prescriber with suitable equivalent qualifications for the programme the student is undertaking

R4.5.1 In exceptional circumstances, the same person may fulfil the role of practice supervisor and practice assessor for that part of the programme where the prescribing student is undergoing training in a practice learning setting. In such instances, the student, practice supervisor/assessor and the AEI will need to evidence why it was necessary for the practice supervisor and assessor roles to be carried out by the same person

R4.6 ensure the student is assigned to an academic assessor who is a registered healthcare professional with suitable equivalent qualifications for the programme the student is undertaking

R4.7 provide constructive feedback to students throughout the programme to support their development as necessary for meeting the RPS competencies and programme outcomes

R4.8 assess the student's suitability for award based on the successful completion of a period of practice-based learning relevant to their field of prescribing practice

R4.9 ensure that all programme learning outcomes are met, addressing all areas necessary to meet the RPS competencies. This includes all students:

R4.9.1 successfully passing a pharmacology exam (the pharmacology exam must be passed with a minimum score of 80 percent), and

R4.9.2 successfully passing a numeracy assessment related to prescribing and calculation of medicines (the numeracy assessment must be passed with a score of 100 percent)

Findings against the standards and requirements

Provide an <u>evaluative summary</u> from your documentary analysis and evidence AND discussion at the approval visit to demonstrate if assurance is provided that the QA approval criteria below is met or not met

- There is evidence of how the programme will ensure how support, supervision, learning and assessment provided complies with the NMC *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* (R4.1)

  MET ☒   **NOT MET** ☐

R4.1 is met. Unchanged through this modification.

- There is evidence of how the *Standards for student supervision and assessment* are applied to the programme. There are processes in place to identify the supervisors and assessors along with how they will be prepared for their roles (R4.2)

  MET ☒   **NOT MET** ☐

R4.2 is met. Unchanged through this modification.

Evidence provides assurance that the following QA approval criteria are met:

- Evidence of programme leader being a registered healthcare professional with appropriate knowledge, skills and experience in accordance with the requirements of the *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education.* (R4.3)

  YES ☒   **NO** ☐

- Evidence of the programme leader working in conjunction with the LME and the practice assessor to ensure adequate support for any midwives undertaking prescribing programmes (R4.4)

  YES ☒   **NO** ☐   **N/A** ☐

Provide an evaluative summary from your documentary analysis and evidence AND discussion at the approval visit to demonstrate if assurance is provided that the QA approval criteria below is met or not met

- Processes are in place to ensure the student is assigned to a practice assessor who is a registered healthcare professional and an experienced prescriber with suitable equivalent qualifications for the programme the student is undertaking. Processes are in place to ensure that in exceptional circumstances only, the same person may fulfil the role of practice supervisor and practice assessor for that part of the programme where the prescribing student is undergoing training in a practice learning setting. In such instances, the student, practice supervisor/assessor and the AEI will need to evidence why it was necessary for the practice supervisor and assessor roles to be carried out by the same person (R4.5)

  MET ☒   **NOT MET** ☐

R4.5 is met. Unchanged through this modification.

Evidence provides assurance that the following QA approval criteria are met:

- Processes are in place to ensure the student is assigned to an academic assessor who is a registered healthcare professional with suitable equivalent qualifications for the programme the student is undertaking (R4.6)

  YES ☒   **NO** ☐

- Processes are in place to provide constructive feedback to students throughout the programme to support their development as necessary for meeting the RPS competencies and programme outcomes (R4.7)

  YES ☒   **NO** ☐

- Processes are in place to assess the student's suitability for award based on the successful completion of a period of practice-based learning relevant to their field of prescribing practice (R4.8)

  YES ☒   **NO** ☐

- Processes are in place to ensure that all programme learning outcomes are met, addressing all areas necessary to meet the RPS competencies (R4.9). This includes:
  - successfully passing a pharmacology exam (the pharmacology exam must be passed with a minimum score of 80%), and
  - successfully passing a numeracy assessment related to prescribing and calculation of medicines (the numeracy assessment must be passed with a score of 100%).

  YES ☒   **NO** ☐

Assurance is provided that Gateway 1: *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* relevant to supervision and assessment are met

YES ☒   **NO** ☐

Assurance is provided that Gateway 2: *Standards for student supervision and assessment* relevant to supervision and assessment are met

YES ☒   **NO** ☐

Outcome		
Is the standard met?	**MET** ☒	**NOT MET** ☐

Safe, kind, effective care through quality assurance of nursing, midwifery and nursing associate education.

Date: 2 October 2023
Post event review
Identify how the condition(s) is met: N/A
Date condition(s) met: N/A
Revised outcome after condition(s) met: MET ☐   NOT MET ☐ N/A

Standard 5: Qualification to be awarded

Approved education institutions, together with practice learning partners, must:

R5.1 following successful completion of an NMC approved programme of preparation, confirm that the registered nurse (level 1), midwife or SCPHN is eligible to be recorded as a prescriber, in either or both categories of:

R5.1.1 a community practitioner nurse or midwife prescriber (V100/V150), or

R5.1.2 a nurse or midwife independent/supplementary prescriber (V300)

R5.2 ensure that participation in and successful completion of an NMC approved prescribing programme leads to accreditation at a level equivalent to a bachelor's degree as a minimum award

R5.3 inform the student that the award must be registered with us within five years of successfully completing the programme and if they fail to do so they will have to retake and successfully complete the programme in order to qualify and register their award as a prescriber

R5.4 inform the student that they may only prescribe once their prescribing qualification has been annotated on the NMC register and they may only prescribe from the formulary they are qualified to prescribe from and within their competence and scope of practice

Findings against the standards and requirements

Evidence provides assurance that the following QA approval criteria are met:

- Processes are in place to ensure following successful completion of an NMC approved programme of preparation, confirm that the registered nurse (level 1), midwife or SCPHN is eligible to be recorded as a prescriber, in either or both categories of:
  - a community practitioner nurse (or midwife) prescriber (V100/V150), or

- a nurse or midwife independent/supplementary prescriber (V300) (R5.1)

YES ☒ **NO** ☐

- Evidence to ensure that successful participation in and completion of an NMC approved prescribing programme leads to accreditation at a level equivalent to a bachelor's degree as a minimum award (R5.2)

YES ☒ **NO** ☐

- Processes are in place to inform the student that the award must be registered with the NMC within five years of successfully completing the programme and if they fail to do so they will have to retake and successfully complete the programme in order to qualify and register their award as a prescriber (R5.3)

YES ☒ **NO** ☐

- Processes are in place to inform the student that they may only prescribe once their prescribing qualification has been annotated on the NMC register and they may only prescribe from the formulary they are qualified to prescribe from and within their competence and scope of practice (R5.4)

YES ☒ **NO** ☐

Assurance is provided that the *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* relevant to the qualification to be awarded are met

YES ☒ **NO** ☐

Outcome		
Is the standard met?	**MET** ☒	**NOT MET** ☐
Date: 2 October 2023		
Post event review		
Identify how the condition(s) is met:		
N/A		
Date condition(s) met:		
N/A		
Revised outcome after condition(s) met:	**MET** ☐	**NOT MET** ☐
N/A		

Section four

Sources of evidence

The following documentation provided by the AEI/education institution was reviewed by the visitor(s):

Key documentation	YES	NO
Programme document, including proposal, rationale and consultation	☒	☐
Programme specification(s)	☒	☐
Module descriptors	☒	☐
Student facing documentation including: programme handbook	☒	☐
Student university handbook	☒	☐
Practice assessment documentation	☒	☐
Practice placement handbook	☒	☐
PAD linked to competence outcomes, and mapped against RPS *A Competency Framework for all Prescribers*	☒	☐
Mapping document providing evidence of how the education institution has met the *Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education* (NMC 2018, updated 2023) (Gateway 1)	☒	☐
Mapping document providing evidence of how the *Standards for student supervision and assessment* (NMC 2018, updated 2023) apply to the programme(s) (Gateway 2)	☒	☐
Mapping document providing evidence of how the programme meets the *Standards for prescribing programmes* and RPS *Standards of proficiency for prescribers* (NMC 2018, updated 2023) (Gateway 3)	☒	☐
Curricula vitae for relevant staff	☒	☐
Registered healthcare professionals, experienced prescribers with suitable equivalent qualifications for the programme - registration checked on relevant regulators website	☒	☐
Written placement agreements between the education institution and associated practice learning partners to support the programme intentions.	☒	☐
If you stated no above, please provide the reason and mitigation:		
List additional documentation:		

	None identified.
	Additional comments: None identified.

During the event the visitor(s) met the following groups:

	YES	NO
Senior managers of the AEI/education institution with responsibility for resources for the programme	☐	☒
Senior managers from associated practice learning partners with responsibility for resources for the programme	☐	☒
Programme team/academic assessors	☐	☒
Practice leads/practice supervisors/ practice assessors	☐	☒
Students	☐	☒
If yes, please identify cohort year/programme of study:		
People who use services and carers	☐	☒
If you stated no above, please provide the reason and mitigation: This modification is undertaken through desktop documentary review. Meetings with stakeholder groups aren't required.		
Additional comments: None identified.		

The visitor(s) viewed the following areas/facilities during the event:

	YES	NO
Specialist teaching accommodation (e.g. clinical skills/simulation suites)	☐	☒
Library facilities	☐	☒
Technology enhanced learning Virtual learning environment	☐	☒
Educational audit tools/documentation	☐	☒
Practice learning environments	☐	☒
If practice learning environments are visited, state where visited/findings:		
System regulator reports reviewed for practice learning partners	☒	☐
System regulator reports list: Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust, CQC inspection report, 4 July 2022 Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust, CQC inspection report, 10 June 2021		

Milton Keynes University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, CQC inspection report, 5 July 2023 London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust, CQC inspection report, 20 May 2022 The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, CQC inspection report, 18 January 2023
If you stated no above, please provide the reason and mitigation: This modification is undertaken through desktop documentary review.
Additional comments: None identified.

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Issue record			
Final Report			
Author(s):	Mike Kitching	Date:	6 October 2023
Checked by:	Pamela Page	Date:	20 October 2023
Submitted by:	Mubaraq Sanusi	Date:	23 November 2023
Approved by:	Leeann Greer	Date:	24 November 2023