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Specialist residential colleges offer students the opportunity to learn new skills in real work environments. Staff are highly trained and committed to ensure students achieve their full potential educationally, vocationally and socially.

Examples of curriculum pathway opportunities for students include:

- hospitality and housekeeping
- retail
- performing arts
- horticulture
- work skills.

Most campus' offer students residential accommodation, sporting facilities, a wellbeing centre, student union and excellent IT facilities.

Development of independence skills takes place for all students during timetabled sessions each week and are a combined approach of planned and experiential learning. The aim of independence is to enable students to grow in confidence in living as independently as possible.

Work with students may include the active support and active participation models. Care staff will actively support and guide students to undertake a range of daily living activities such as shopping, travelling, choosing suitable clothing, preparing a snack or meal and community safety. Programmes are personalised for each individual student, enabling them to gain the skills they need to live their lives as they see fit. It is vital that students continue to practise these skills when they go home during holidays, to keep them learning as much as possible.



This setting offers the opportunity for student nurses to learn about the development of independence and work skills of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Enabling the young person to be the best they can be and to live as independently as is possible.

Supporting young people to develop independence regarding personal care of helping those that require assistance to bath, shower, care of teeth, hair, nails.

Promoting independence with cooking, shopping, budgeting, housekeeping.

Supporting students to develop positive relationships with others. Supporting with understanding of sex and relationships and communicating this information in the most appropriate format to enable understanding.

Supporting with student autonomy around decision making. Often this is the first time our students have lived away from home, they have been used to mum and dad making decisions for them.

Students will be able to attend and contribute to our student union board

As part of a college student's curriculum, they will study a Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PHSE) module, student nurses will be able to attend some curriculum sessions with students

Trans awareness – we currently have two students who are in the process of transitioning from male to female. Student nurses will have the opportunity to support these students with some of their appointments with other professionals and to support with their day to day health and wellbeing.

Positive risk taking to enable development of student independence and enables the students in college to grow. Student nurses will have the opportunity to be involved in decisions regarding positive risk taking with college students.

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application of infection, prevention and control  
risk assessments (environmental, moving and handling, medication)  
multi-disciplinary team sharing information  
venepuncture - college students regularly have bloods taken for monitoring medication levels  
vaccination and immunisation – college students each year will be offered the flu vaccination  
percutaneous gastrostomy tube care – we have a small provision of periodic limb movement disorder (PLMD) students. Some

Clinical team consisting of:

registered learning disability nurses x 2 working full time  
Monday to Friday 9:00-17:00 across all residences  
one residence each with a lead practitioner (manager) working  
Monday to Sunday 7:30-16:30  
in each residence - support practitioners who support the care needs of students,  
number depends on the need, but general ratio is 1:5  
housekeeping  
head of care.



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Developing behaviour support plans, observe students with behaviours of concern and give support by advising care staff how to support the student. Coaches regularly support with undertaking quality of life tools with students and undertaking functional assessments. Student nurses will have the opportunity to observe and potentially get involved with this activity.

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Managing the general health needs of the students while they are at college. Student nurses on placement will have the opportunity to help students to make appointments to see GPs and hospital consultants and support with attending the appointment. They can support college students to attend annual health checks. Student nurses will learn about a range of medications and medication processes and procedures across college.

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Derwen College is 'Makaton Friendly'. We work collaboratively to promote a total communication environment across the whole college. A variety of communication strategies are used in a personalised way to meet the needs of the students, e.g. communication passports, Makaton signs and symbols, pictures and augmentative and alternative communication devices. Other forms of communication and information gathering to enable us to support students are the use of social stories, zones of regulation, talking mats and the listening programme. Student nurses will be able to observe these but also be involved in the delivery. Our speech and language therapists also undertake regular assessments for students with dysphagia and develop plans of care and risk assessments for those students.

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Some students at college may need a specialist physiotherapy assessment. Recommendations and advice is given by our physiotherapists to promote functional independence and access to the curriculum. Physios support staff to embed strategies into work and living areas of our students to ensure needs are met throughout the day in all environments. We encourage learners to take as much responsibility as possible for looking after their own bodies through exercise and accessing physiotherapy in the community if required.

Student nurses will be able to observe and be involved with:

1. Support for client handling
  2. Managing posture and movement
    - . Optimising independence and functional movement – working with students in the hydrotherapy pool and in the multi-equipped gym.
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Animals can have a therapeutic impact on the wellbeing of college students, and many colleges have a therapy animal that is integrated within college life. Student nurses will be able to observe the benefits of this to the student's mental health.

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Social workers from the individual's local authority are involved in arranging and supporting the student to settle into the placement. They participate in regular MDT team meetings and undertake regular reviews to monitor a student's progress and the impact of any issues that may arise with the placement.

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The Nursing and Midwifery Council launched 'Standards of proficiency for registered nurses' following extensive consultation in 2018. The new standards of proficiency represent the skills, knowledge and attributes all nurses must demonstrate – in a sense 'future proofing' the profession to meet the challenges and changes anticipated in the coming years.

The new standards broaden the experience that student nurses should have as well as increasing the skill level expected at point of registration.

Our aim here is to encourage the development of placements in social care settings, widen the knowledge of nurses regarding social care provision and share the social model of how care can be delivered.

This, together with the growing part that social care continues to play in delivering both health and social care has led to this document being created.



Health Education England  
Midlands region (HEE) social care workforce cell  
Members and facilitators of Skills for Care Workforce Expert by Experience advisory group  
Member of Skills for Care Stakeholder Nursing Workforce Reference Group



Gabrielle McDonald - Macdonald Care  
Karen George - Derwen College  
Nicola Cooper - Agrade Care  
Anita Astle - Wren Hall Nursing Home  
Anne Piri - Fitzroy  
Denise Nannetti - Elysium Healthcare  
Kathy Scott - The Chaseley Trust  
Azhar Juri - Mental Health Recovery Care Homes,  
Parkview Care Homes Ltd.  
Nigel Taylor – CareTech