

Welcome to Child Nursing BSc (Hons)

My name is Bally Sandhu and I am the admissions tutor for the BSc (Hons) in Child Nursing and on behalf of the Child Teaching Team I would like to welcome you to this programme of study.

The first few weeks on the course can feel hectic and there will be a great deal of new information to take in.

We hope that this Welcome Pack will help you to prepare for this, and the next three years which will bring lots of challenges but hopefully lots of rewards as well.



Our philosophy and vision

Our course is based on the philosophy that we believe that children and young people have a right to expert nursing that enables them to be healthy, safe, lead a full life and alongside this, our vision is to promote compassionate care to make a real difference to those we care for.

As part of the course you will have lots of opportunities to explore ways in which this philosophy can be put into practice and a key element of this will be asking you to recognise your own personal values and the role that they and professional values combine to deliver effective care and support.

Our aims

We recognise that, as new recruits, you will need exposure to a range of ideas and experiences that will help you to develop into tomorrow's nurses for children, young people and their families. In **year 1** much of your time will be spent in *exposing* you to these ideas and experiences. In **year 2** we will expect you to use your knowledge and skills gained so far in *initiating* care and support and by **year 3** we will expect you to play a more significant role in *leading* care. All of this will happen under the skilled supervision of tutors and mentors in practice. Throughout the three years we recognise that you are a unique and developing individual. This influences our approach in two ways. The first is that you will be assigned a Personal Academic Tutor. This person will be a member of the Child teaching team and will offer you individual support and help you to review and improve your progress through the course. The second is that we encourage your active participation in every session and, where possible, to make choices over the session content.

Our team

The following tutors make up the Child teaching team at the University of Northampton.

Gail Reoch: gail.reoch@northampton.ac.uk 01604 892326

Louise Cremonesini: louise.cremonesini@northampton.ac.uk 01604 892187

Vicky Wright: vicky.wright@northampton.ac.uk 01604 892571

Bally Sandhu: bally.sandhu@northampton.ac.uk 01604 893749

We are currently based in the grey portokabin X03b at the back of the University at Park Campus. The best way of contacting us is via email which we will endeavour to respond to within 3 days for ordinary matters. If your need is urgent the please telephone one of us. We will share our mobile numbers with you within the first week but please note we do not work out of hours, bank holidays and weekends.

Teaching and learning

The course is split into 50% practice [placements] and 50% theory [taught sessions on campus] to allow you to develop as a competence practitioner both academically and practically. The Child teaching team employs an active blended learning approach which means that we will use a range of teaching and learning methods whilst you are on the course. Whether you are engaged in face-to-face, on-line, or group work, we endeavour to make your learning as interactive and at times, fun as possible. We also encourage a greater level of independent study as you progress through the three years to prepare you for registration with the Nursing Midwifery Council [NMC].

Learning in practice

The University is fortunate to be able to have access to a variety of placements in the county of Northamptonshire ranging from hospitals to voluntary and healthcare settings. There are two placement blocks each year (a full course plan will be available when you commence the course). You will have a mentor and co-mentor for each placement from the practice area where you are placed. In addition, you will be provided with a Practice facilitator who will be one of the Child Teaching team.

Enhancement opportunities

As part of the BSc[Hons] Child Nursing we also offer a European Nursing Module through which you will have the opportunity to complete a two week child nursing placement in a European city.

There is also the possibility of an Erasmus placement where you can complete an eleven week placement in a specified European city.

Throughout the 3 years we also encourage you to become part of our team by assisting us with recruitment, hosting Open days, teaching skills and providing constructive viewpoints for us to improve the programme.

Once you qualify as a children's nurse your qualification can take you anywhere in the world!

Pre-course reading

Many students ask us what they need to read before coming on the course or whether we recommend any text books. We suggest you download the reading list for first year students:

<https://www.northampton.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Child-Nursing-reading-list-pdf>.

The following recommended textbook that will support you over the 3 years of the course is:

Rudolph M. Lee T. & Levene M.[2011] *Paediatrics and Child Health*, Wiley-Blackwell, Chichester.

Details of how to obtain discount for this textbook will be given to you during your first week.

Our Park campus library is well stocked with relevant publications and many of them can be accessed online.

You may also find these websites useful for keeping up to date with contemporary and global child health affairs.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/healthy-child-programme-pregnancy-and-the-first-5-years-of-life>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childhood-obesity-a-plan-for-action>

So here we are, your Child Teaching team! Just for a bit of fun here is something to amuse you.

Question - If we were a Catvenger which cat would each of us resemble?

Go on, have a go. None of us are easily offended!



Looking forward to teaching and working with you all very soon!