Get ready for BSc(Hons) Nursing (Learning Disabilities)

We hope our message finds you well and you are excitedly anticipating starting your study at UWE Bristol later this year. We appreciate that the recent times have been challenging, but all of the learning disability nursing lecturers alongside colleagues at UWE Bristol are looking forward to welcoming you at the beginning of your nursing journey. Please enjoy your summer holiday, rest and spend time with friends and family.

As your Programme Leaders, we warmly welcome you onto BSc(Hons) Nursing (Learning Disabilities). We have provided some information below that will help you to prepare for starting with us. We look forward to meeting you.

Craig Boothroyd & Adam Bennett
Programme Leaders

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 7th September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

The Starting Block will help you settle into university and help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practise the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the Starting Block website with more details.

Your timetable will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the enrolment process. Please visit the 'Understanding your teaching timetable' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

Preparing and arrival
You can find everything you need to know about enrolment, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our Preparing and Arrival webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the library, study skills, academic support, health and wellbeing support and much more.

Enrolment
Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the MYUWE platform where you can enrol. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Enrolment for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our Enrolment website.

ID card - upload your photo now
We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to MYUWE. To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our student card guidance.

How to make a successful start to your programme

Specific for your course
In previous correspondence you will have already been informed about our additional requirements which must be completed ahead of Enrolment and Induction:

- **Academic certificates**
- **Disclosure and Barring Service check**
- **Occupational Health clearance**

Immunisation
Please read both the Immunisation Letter and Immunisation leaflet prior to commencing your studies.

If any of these requirements are still outstanding, you must send the relevant paperwork to us, as instructed, as soon as possible.

Please be aware that incomplete Disclosure Barring Service and Occupational Health Checks will impact on your ability to access learning materials, attend placements and complete your enrolment onto your degree programme.

Placement Uniform
Details of how to order your placement uniform online will be sent to you by email soon after you start. This will include guidance to help you take accurate measurements that will be required to process your uniform order. You will also be asked to provide an address where your uniform will be delivered – please ensure that the address you provide is where you will be based when the delivery is made. Uniform deliveries will be made between late October and December. Look out for the email in your UWE email inbox and order your uniform promptly.

Engage with your programme

Start your learning
We would recommend you do the following before you arrive at UWE:

You will be accessing and participating in webinars, using our Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard Collaborate Live. Familiarise yourself with how to access Collaborate.

Read around your subject
A key skill which is required to achieve a high level of success within your chosen programme is the ability to think critically about key issues and practices. To help you to enhance these skills and be ready to engage with your studies, you should start to read and research around your subject before you arrive. Explore the Library web pages to see the

wide range of resources available to you once you become a UWE Bristol student.

When you join the learning disabilities nursing programme at UWE, you will have access to a lot of different resources, ranging from books, anatomical models to the latest research published through the databases. Each module has a comprehensive reading list with the relevant titles, resources and materials which you are expected to explore.

Therefore, reading in advance is not compulsory, however, here are some of our recommended areas you may wish to research and focus on:

- Health Inequalities – Annual Health Checks
- LeDeR Programme – learning from the lives and deaths of people with learning disability and Autism
- Mental Capacity Act – consent, best interests
- Equality Act – Reasonable Adjustments
- Challenging Behaviour – Positive Behaviour Support

Here are a couple of general websites to start you off:

- https://www.england.nhs.uk/learning-disabilities/improving-health/learning-from-lives-and-deaths/
- https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/learning-disability-applying-all-our-health/learning-disabilities-applying-all-our-health

Also here are a few books:

Northway, R. & Hopes, P. (2022) *Learning Disability Nursing: developing professional practice*. St Albans: Critical Publishing.

Kapit, W. (2013) The Anatomy Colouring Book London: Pearson.

Davison, N. (2014) Numeracy and Clinical Calculations for Nurses Banbury: Lantern Publishing. See corbettmaths.com.

Moulster, G. et al (2019) The Moulster and Griffiths Learning Disability Nursing Model: A Framework for Practice

Peater, I. & P, Evans, S. (2020) Fundamentals of anatomy and physiology for nursing and healthcare students

Connect with others

You are probably familiar with using social media to stay in touch with your friends and family, however there are many organisations and professionals which engage with social media in a professional way. This can help your learning and development as a future nurse. We would recommend you do the following before you arrive at UWE:
Follow @LDNursingUWE on Twitter. We try and Tweet regularly so you can find out what is going on with our programme before you start and keep up to date with recent developments in learning disability nursing.

We also have a UWE Learning Disability Facebook group which has some existing and previous students as members. You can find us on Facebook here.

Be prepared

Access support
Check the information on our Disability web pages so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

Get equipped
The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the Student Money Service team for advice and guidance.

See the UWE website for detailed information on choosing your IT equipment including recommended specifications.

For this programme we recommend the **Core Specification**.

International students
The Global Student Support Team offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the course, please contact us: **Craig Boothroyd** via email at Craig2.boothroyd@uwe.ac.uk and **Adam Bennett** via email adam7.bennett@uwe.ac.uk

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Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

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