### Birmingham Community Health Care NHS Non Traditional Placement

**Name and Roles:**

Kim Bibby - Birmingham Community Health Care (BCHC), Lead for nutrition support and dept head of service. Placement lead for dept.

**Placement overview:**

This was for two A2 placements with Birmingham City University, over two weeks. The students were paired to allow them to do project work. Due to the short nature of the placement, access to trust IT was not used and the students used their own laptops.

This placement allowed students to undertake a project and observe newer areas of dietetics to the department e.g. PCN roles and the Long COVID dietetic clinic.

The placement was 3 days remote and 2 days on site each week which allowed the students to minimise travel. As a lot of sessions were online they were able to observe from home.

There was also a leadership element of this with the students observing workforce meetings with senior management.

As the students were here as a pair their end of week was together with one educator, so this placement also was a 2 to 1 model. The students were given the option to do this separately or together with their end of weeks.

**Example of placement time table:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **AM** | **PM** |
| MondayFace to face | 10:00 – 11:00 Induction/ project discussion11:00-12:00 Discuss formulary application | 13.00-14.00 Meeting to discuss Blended Diet audit16:00-18:00 PCN Dietitians Weight Management session |
| TuesdayVirtual | 9.30-12.30 Workforce and OD Teams meeting | 1.30-2 Teams call to discuss project work |
| WednesdayFace to face | October Staff Meeting:09:30 – 12:30 | Project work atMoseley Hall Hospital3.30-4.30 Leads meeting Teams |
| ThursdayVirtual | Project work remotely with support | Study leave / peer support |
| FridayVirtual | 9am – Teams end of weekPCN Dietitian 10:00-13:00, Teams clinic | Post COVID Syndrome Service MDT13:00 – 16:00MS Teams |

**Lessons Learnt / Top tips**

* When not giving access to trust systems ensure projects are able to be completed
* Ensure peer support sessions in timetables
* Identifying mentors for pastoral support during placements
* Short placements are a great time to see the breath of dietetics
* Chance for senior management to be involved in student training