



Social Work Practice Learning at BU – reviewing 2020-21 and looking forward to 2021-22



Placements in 2020-21

Social work placements continued throughout the pandemic thanks to our partners in Local Authority settings, Health and the Independent and Voluntary Sector. Students received high quality support and a huge variety of valuable experiences in practice. We owe a massive thank you to our workforce partners, all teams, Practice Educators and Placement Supervisors who offered the time and expertise to support students in practice learning in the past year. What a massive achievement to have all students complete placements, with everything this year has thrown at us. We are extremely grateful to all of you for your role in making that happen. **A Heartfelt THANK YOU from us!!!!**

Looking forward to 2021-22

Autumn first and final placements will be starting in Sept 2021 for both MA and BA students. Spring term placements will be starting around January / Feb 2022. We start planning for these in the autumn term so, if you are interested in hosting or supporting a social work student you are welcome to contact us for more information. Here is our email address:

Socialworkplacement@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Link Sessions for first and final placements: Link sessions are an opportunity to meet with other supervisors and educators and to ask questions about supporting a student in practice learning. For anyone supporting a student this coming term, we will send details of **link sessions** out to you. We will continue to host these online for now but will review this and seek your feedback on what will work best in future. There are two planned link sessions during every placement. We welcome your contact outside of these sessions if you have any questions too!

Placement Supervisor Workshop future dates: We will be planning future dates for the **Placement Supervisor workshop**. Usually we run these in December and July. We are looking at how we may be able to format this with a mix of online and face to face workshop in future. Please watch this space!

Sharing some 'best moments' – feedback from students

After each placement we ask students to complete a survey about their experience of placement. Here are a few of the "best moments" they shared.....

Despite the challenges of working remotely due to Covid restrictions I have loved the diversity and variety of experiences I have had. I have particularly enjoyed the direct life story work with some young people.

Being able to manage cases independently with the oversight of my PE. My opinion being trusted. Putting theory into practice and making sense of things.

Interacting with the young people and learning from their lived experiences. Reflecting on my own values and how my upbringing has shaped who I am. Also realising that other members of staff were learning things from me as well.

All of the experiences I gained in placement and from the team were exceptional. All the team were willing to set aside their time in promoting my knowledge within this field of work.



Working alongside a great team - I felt incredibly supported throughout, everyone was very kind and instantly made me feel part of the team.

Working directly with families building positive relationships, having responsibility, seeing how theories influence practice, working within a team, learning policies and procedures, having a part in the positive impact on children's outcomes

Being able to work in the office environment with others. When I started to build relationships with my foster carers

Working as part of the Hospital Social Work Team....all members of staff were passionate, empathic and advocated for every service user. Everyone was inspiring and I am very lucky to have had the experience within the team

Changes in the social work practice learning team and how to contact us:

The Practice Learning Team is going to look a little different from Sept 2021 as we are saying some farewells and welcomes! We also want to let everyone know about our dedicated email address for any practice learning queries you may have. This is a central email address so we all have access and can respond to queries. The email address is Socialworkplacement@bournemouth.ac.uk

We are saying farewell to:

Mel Hughes who will be moving into other areas of teaching on the BA and MA Programmes, continuing to build on her work with PIER Partnership and focus on her research at BU. We are also saying farewell to **Ann Daniel** who has been one of our Practice Tutors for many years and who has supported many students in their practice learning. Ann is retiring and we wish her well.

We wish both Ann and Mel all the best and thank them for their amazing contributions to Social Work Practice Learning at BU.

Farewell
and
Good Luck



...and we welcome to our practice learning team

Dr Sally Lee– leading first placement (semester 1)

Hello! I am MA and BA Programme Lead and Senior Lecturer at Bournemouth University. I also undertake research on a variety of projects including mental capacity, adult safeguarding and sexual well-being. I completed my doctoral research in 2016 exploring social work practice, physical disability and sexual well-being. This work continues and I am currently developing learning materials (including a short film) around sexual well-being for social care and health practitioners. I have extensive social work practice experience built up during more than 25 years of working in diverse practice settings and services. My research uses participatory methods and focuses on often marginalised populations



Dr Orlanda Harvey – leading first placement (semester 2)

Hello! I am now a lecturer in Social Work, specialising in Developing Professional Relationships and Leadership. I teach on both pre-qualifying and post qualifying programmes. I completed my doctoral research in 2020 in the recreational use of Androgenic Anabolic Steroids. My research interests include: Image and Performance Enhancing Substance Use, Domestic Violence and Abuse, leadership and reflective practice.

I qualified as a Social Worker in 2016 and have worked in the Addiction and Adult Social Work fields.

Dr Louise Oliver – leading on Practice Education as part of the National Centre for post-qualifying Social Work and Professional Practice

Hello, I am a lecturer in social work and the lead for the Social Work Practice Educator units: Enabling work-based learning and Supervising a Learner in Practice. I also teach within the pre-qualifying BA and MA programmes including the Post-Graduate Diploma Step up to Social Work.

I received the Vice Chancellor Scholarship to undertake and complete a Phd on problematic communications in the form of secrets and secrecy and the influence this has upon child-to-parent violence and abuse. I continue to conduct research focusing upon family conflict, violence and abuse.

I am also interested in game-based learning and gamification and am working on several collaborative projects, using these methods to enhance learning in health and social care practice.

I have worked within children's social care since 2004, as a Family Support Worker and later as a qualified Social Worker. Prior to that I have worked within the independent sector working with adults who were homeless and using substances, and also in a residential setting to support adults develop independent living skills.



If you need to get in touch with us here are our contact details. We look forward to working with you!

BU Practice Learning Team:

Ros Dray – Practice Lead and Final placement unit lead – rosdray@bournemouth.ac.uk

Fiona Cusack – Practice Learning Coordinator – fcusack@bournemouth.ac.uk

Sally Lee – First placement unit lead – lees@bournemouth.ac.uk

Orlanda Harvey – first placement unit – harveyo@bournemouth.ac.uk

Practice Education (Post Qualifying Social Work and Professional Practice) - Dr Louise Oliver - LOliver@bournemouth.ac.uk

Practice Tutors

Lesley Cotton – Practice Tutor

Judy Eeles – Practice Tutor

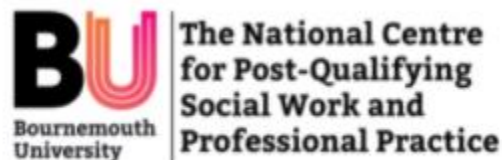
Dei Arnold-Merrick – Practice Tutor

Kim Fowler – Practice Tutor

Inbox - Socialworkplacement@bournemouth.ac.uk

Helpful resources for practice education and practice learning:

- National Centre for Post-Qualifying Social Work and Professional Practice – <https://ncpgsw.com>



- The Pan Dorset Teaching Partnership Website is also a great place for resources on practice education and events which are planned to support practitioner continued professional development: <https://pdwtp.org.uk/>

