

Visitors' report

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Name of education provider | Bangor University |
| Programme name | BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography |
| Mode of delivery | Full time |
| Relevant part of the HCPC Register | Radiographer |
| Relevant modality / domain | Diagnostic radiography |
| Date of visit | 18 – 19 September 2012 |

Contents

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Contents..... | 1 |
| Executive summary..... | 2 |
| Introduction..... | 3 |
| Visit details..... | 3 |
| Sources of evidence..... | 4 |
| Recommended outcome..... | 5 |
| Recommendations..... | 6 |

Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve educational programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us. The HCPC is a statutory regulator and our main aim is to protect the public. The HCPC currently regulates 16 professions. All of these professions have at least one professional title which is protected by law. This means that anyone using the title 'Radiographer' or 'Diagnostic radiographer' must be registered with us. The HCPC keep a register of health and care professionals who meet our standards for their training, professional skills, behaviour and health.

The visitors' report which follows outlines the recommended outcome made by the visitors on the approval of the programme at the education provider. This recommended outcome was accepted by the Education and Training Committee (Committee) on 11 October 2012. At this meeting, the Committee approved the programme. This means that the programme meets our standards of education and training (SETs) and ensures that those who complete it meet our standards of proficiency (SOPs) for their part of the Register. The programme is now granted open ended approval, subject to satisfactory monitoring.

Introduction

The HCPC visited the programme at the education provider to consider major changes proposed to the programme. The major change affected the following standards - programme admissions, programme management and resources, curriculum and assessment. The programme was already approved by the HCPC and this visit assessed whether the programme continued to meet the standards of education and training (SETs) and continued to ensure that those who complete the programme meet the standards of proficiency (SOPs) for their part of the Register.

This visit was an HCPC only visit. The education provider did not validate or review the programme at the visit and the professional body did not consider their accreditation of the programme. The education provider supplied an independent chair and secretary for the visit.

Visit details

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of HCPC visitors and profession | Martin Benwell (Diagnostic radiographer) Shaaron Pratt (Diagnostic radiographer) |
| HCPC executive officer (in attendance) | Ruth Wood |
| HCPC observers | Matthew Nelson Jamie Hunt |
| Proposed student numbers | 30 per cohort |
| First approved intake | September 2008 |
| Effective date that programme approval reconfirmed from | September 2012 |
| Chair | David Wright (Bangor University) |
| Secretary | Wendy Williams (Bangor University) |

Sources of evidence

Prior to the visit the HCPC reviewed the documentation detailed below, sent by the education provider:

| | Yes | No | N/A |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Programme specification | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Descriptions of the modules | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mapping document providing evidence of how the education provider has met the SETs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mapping document providing evidence of how the education provider has met the SOPs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Practice placement handbook | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Student handbook | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Curriculum vitae for relevant staff | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| External examiners' reports from the last two years | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

During the visit the HCPC saw the following groups or facilities:

| | Yes | No | N/A |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Senior managers of the education provider with responsibility for resources for the programme | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Programme team | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Placements providers and educators/mentors | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Students | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Learning resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Specialist teaching accommodation (eg specialist laboratories and teaching rooms) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Recommended outcome

To recommend a programme for ongoing approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets all of the standards of education and training (SETs) and that those who complete the programme meet our standards of proficiency (SOPs) for their part of the Register.

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that the ongoing approval of the programme is reconfirmed.

The visitors did not set any conditions for the programme.

Conditions are requirements that the education provider must meet before the programme can be recommended for ongoing approval. Conditions are set when certain standards of education and training have not been met or there is insufficient evidence of the standard being met.

The visitors made a number of recommendations for the programme.

Recommendations are observations on the programme or education provider which do not need to be met before the programme is recommended for ongoing approval. Recommendations are normally set to encourage further enhancements to the programme and are normally set when it is felt that the particular standard of education and training has been met at, or just above the threshold level.

Recommendations

3.7 A programme for staff development must be in place to ensure continuing professional and research development.

Recommendation: The visitors recommend the programme team strive to maintain their own professional and research development.

Reason: The visitors discussed the programme for staff development in place for the programme team. They noted the situation at the education provider for the past few years has limited the use of the staff development programme; the programme team indicated it had been difficult although they had still continued to use the resources available. The visitors understood the explanations for this; however they wish to stress to the programme team the need to continually ensure they are using the development resources available as much as they can. The visitors felt this was particularly important when considering the increased amount of interprofessional learning within the new programme structure. The visitors also noted the programme team's desire to further develop themselves with higher level qualifications and wish to encourage the programme team to use the staff development programme to enable them to achieve this.

6.7 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for student progression and achievement within the programme.

Recommendation: The visitors recommend the programme team amend the student handbook to include detail on student progression through the programme in terms of the number of modules and credits needed to progress.

Reason: When the visitors were considering the information needed for students in relation to this standard, they found it to be spread out amongst various documents. Discussions with the students indicated they were clear about the requirement to pass all modules of the programme however were not so clear as to the amount of credits this would add up to and how many credits were needed to progress from year to year of the programme. The visitors were satisfied the information was present however felt it could be consolidated in order to make it more accessible for students; they suggest this could be included in the student programme handbook.

Martin Benwell
Shaaron Pratt