
Visitors' report

Name of education provider	University of Portsmouth
Programme name	BSc (Hons) Operating Department Practice
Mode of delivery	Full time
Relevant part of the HCPC Register	Operating department practitioner
Date of visit	15 – 16 December 2015

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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. We are a statutory regulator and our main aim is to protect the public. We currently regulate 16 professions. All of these professions have at least one professional title which is protected by law. This means that anyone using the title 'operating department practitioner' 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. The education provider has until 1 February 2016 to provide observations on this report. This is independent of meeting any conditions. The report and any observations received will be considered by the Education and Training Committee (Committee) on 15 January 2016. At this meeting, the Committee will accept, reject or vary the visitors' recommended outcome. If necessary, the Committee may decide to vary the conditions.

The education provider is due to redraft and resubmit documentary evidence in response to the conditions outlined in this report by 20 January 2016. The visitors will consider this response and make a separate recommendation to the Committee on the approval of the programme. It is anticipated that this recommendation will be made to the Committee on 12 February 2016.

Introduction

The HCPC visited the programme at the education provider as it was a new programme which was seeking HCPC approval for the first time. This visit assessed the programme against the standards of education and training (SETs) and considered whether 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 and role of HCPC visitors	Andrew Steel (Operating department practitioner) Julie Weir (Operating department practitioner) Diane Whitlock (Lay visitor)
HCPC executive officer (in attendance)	Alex Urquhart
Proposed student numbers	35 per cohort, one cohort per year
Proposed start date of programme approval	1 September 2016
Chair	Jane Portlock (University of Portsmouth)
Secretary	Rebecca Isaia (University of Portsmouth)

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The HCPC did not review external examiners' reports from the last two years prior to the visit as there is currently no external examiner as the programme is new. However the visitors did review the external examiners' reports from the last two years of the Dip HE Operating Department Practice programme

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"/>
Service users and carers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

The HCPC met with students from the Dip HE Operating Department Practitioner programme, as the programme seeking approval currently does not have any students enrolled on it.

The HCPC did not meet with the service users and carers as they were unable to attend the visit.

Recommended outcome

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be satisfied 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 the relevant part of the Register.

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that a condition is set on the programme, which must be met before the programme can be approved.

The visitors agreed that 57 of the SETs have been met and that conditions should be set on the remaining one SET.

Conditions are requirements that the education provider must meet before the programme can be approved. 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 did not make any recommendations for the programme.

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

Conditions

3.17 Service users and carers must be involved in the programme.

Condition: The education provider is required to provide further evidence to demonstrate how the education provider ensures this service user and carer involvement is consistent and sustainable for the programme.

Reason: Prior to the visit the visitors reviewed the documentation which outlined the school of health sciences and social works' policy to involve service users and carers in the recruitment process. During the visit the visitors did not meet the service user and carer representative who was unable to attend the meeting. The visitors did meet with students from the Dip HE programme, who were asked about their experience of service user and carer involvement in their programme. They responded that they had not experienced any involvement with the service user and carer group. During the meeting with the programme team some time was allocated to discuss the involvement of service users and carers. The programme leader stated that the team have found it difficult to involve service users and carers due to the nature of the profession. The programme leader did however state that there were future plans to involve service users and carers in the programme. An example of this being a plan to run a Saturday club where students meet with children who have scheduled surgeries and explain what the ODP does and what to expect when they arrive for their surgery. This was supported by the service user and carer document which outlined the ideas that are being developed. The course documentation highlighted that there may be implications with insurance, safety and attendance requirements for this type of involvement. The programme team stated that these concerns would be addressed before implementation. From the above evidence the visitors were not sure how the programme team will ensure this service user and carer involvement is sustainable and consistent across the programme. The visitors therefore require further evidence to demonstrate how the education provider ensures the service user and carer involvement is consistent and sustainable for the programme.

Andrew Steel
Julie Weir
Diane Whitlock