



School of Education, Sport and Health Sciences

BSc (Hons) Nursing

Hub and spoke model for placements: a brief guide for students and practice

What is a hub?	A hub is the specific placement with a Practice Assessor (PA) and Practice Supervisor (PS) allocated to a student. The University Placement Team organise all hubs. The allocation is made available to the student up to 4 weeks before the scheduled placement period.
What is a spoke?	A spoke is an optional practice learning opportunity undertaken during the hub placement. The hours on the spoke are included in the practice hours for the placement. This means that all spokes must take place within the 37.5 hour placement. Examples include: quality assurance meetings, visits to other departments particularly those that follow the patient journey, time with other teams, conferences, user group meetings. The student remains supernumerary in the Spoke.
What are the benefits of the hub and spoke model?	The hub and spoke model is adaptive to the changing context of healthcare provision enabling students to experience a wider range of practice learning opportunities. Spokes offer varied and flexible learning experiences that support the students understanding of healthcare systems, patient journeys, all fields of nursing and interdisciplinary working. The model also supports students in gaining experiences that support the application of theory to practice by enabling students to organise experiences that relate to the modular curriculum.
Who organises the spoke?	The student, in agreement with their PA/PS will organise the spoke. Occasionally the University Placement Team may organise a spoke on behalf of the student. Students must discuss with their PA the learning they expect to gain whilst on the spoke and reflect on their learning after the experience.

<p>When can spokes be arranged?</p>	<p>These can be arranged as part of the placement a student is allocated to, in negotiation with the PA. Spokes may or may not be available to all students, depending on the experience being sought, placement capacity in those teams, whether the student is on an action plan and needs to spend time in the Hub placement.</p> <p>Spokes can range from one day to 4 weeks (depending on the organisation and placement type) but they need to be linked to the placement setting the student is currently on to help broaden their understanding or to develop their skills. The Spoke is part of the Hub placement so the PA/ PS remains with the Hub site. There needs to be an identified contact for the Spoke experience who liaises with student and PA/PS.</p>
<p>When and how can NMC Proficiencies be assessed?</p>	<p>The NMC Proficiencies can be assessed in the Hub or Spoke by a registered professional (including Registered nursing associates) who is competent and confident in the proficiency and able to undertake assessment and give feedback to a satisfactory level. PAD proficiencies should be assessed by a PS/PA whose signature is recorded in the front of the PAD.</p> <p>It is recommended that students use the learning opportunities in the Spoke area to inform a 'professional discussion' re proficiencies with their Hub PS/PA, rather than expect staff in the Spoke to sign them off due to PS capacity. Occasionally, it may be necessary for students to visit a spoke placement with the aim to practice and undertake a specific proficiency where the practice is not available in hub. This must be in agreement with the Hub PS/PA and will depend on the placement site and capacity, with a realistic expectation as to how much time is needed for sufficient practice and then assessment.</p>
<p>How should spoke experiences be recorded / evaluated?</p>	<p>The spoke experience should be documented in the Practice Assessment Document (PAD), under the 'working with/ learning from others' section. The PS can provide feedback in the students PAD in the 'Record of Communication' section of the PAD. This enables the Hub PA/PS use the experiences and learning gained to inform the student's assessment.</p> <p>The student should also record the hours on their timesheet and the person allocated to supervise them during the spoke experience should sign to confirm the hours achieved on the spoke.</p> <p>The spoke experience should be evaluated by the student on completion of the placement using the University Practice Placement Evaluation.</p>
<p>Who to contact for advice and support?</p>	<p>Trust Practice Education Facilitators (PEFs) / Student Lead in the placement organisation.</p> <p>Practice Liaison Lecturer Team: PracticeLiaisonTeam@brighton.ac.uk</p>

