

Virtually clinical: placement experience on a virtual platform

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Thanks to: Judy Brook, Associate Dean Partnerships and Placements

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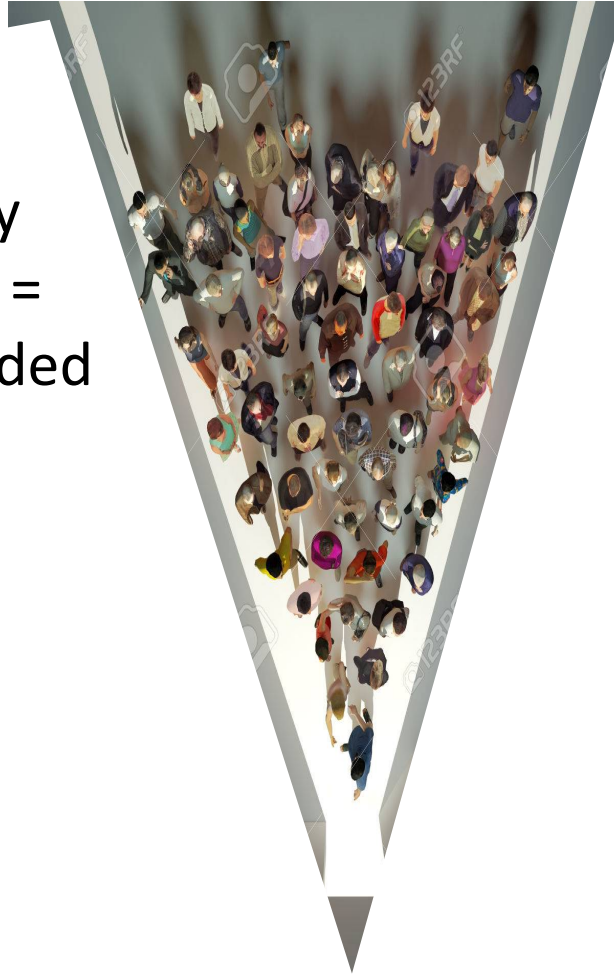
Objectives:

- Share our experience of an alternative arrangement for clinical placement, to help meet the increased demand for placements
- Factors to be considered when moving to a 'virtual' placement
- Initial views from students
- Lessons learned from the pilot
- Opportunity to ask questions at the end

Government pledge:
50,000 more nurses by
2025 – more students =
more placements needed

Avoid disruption of
nursing workforce
pipeline

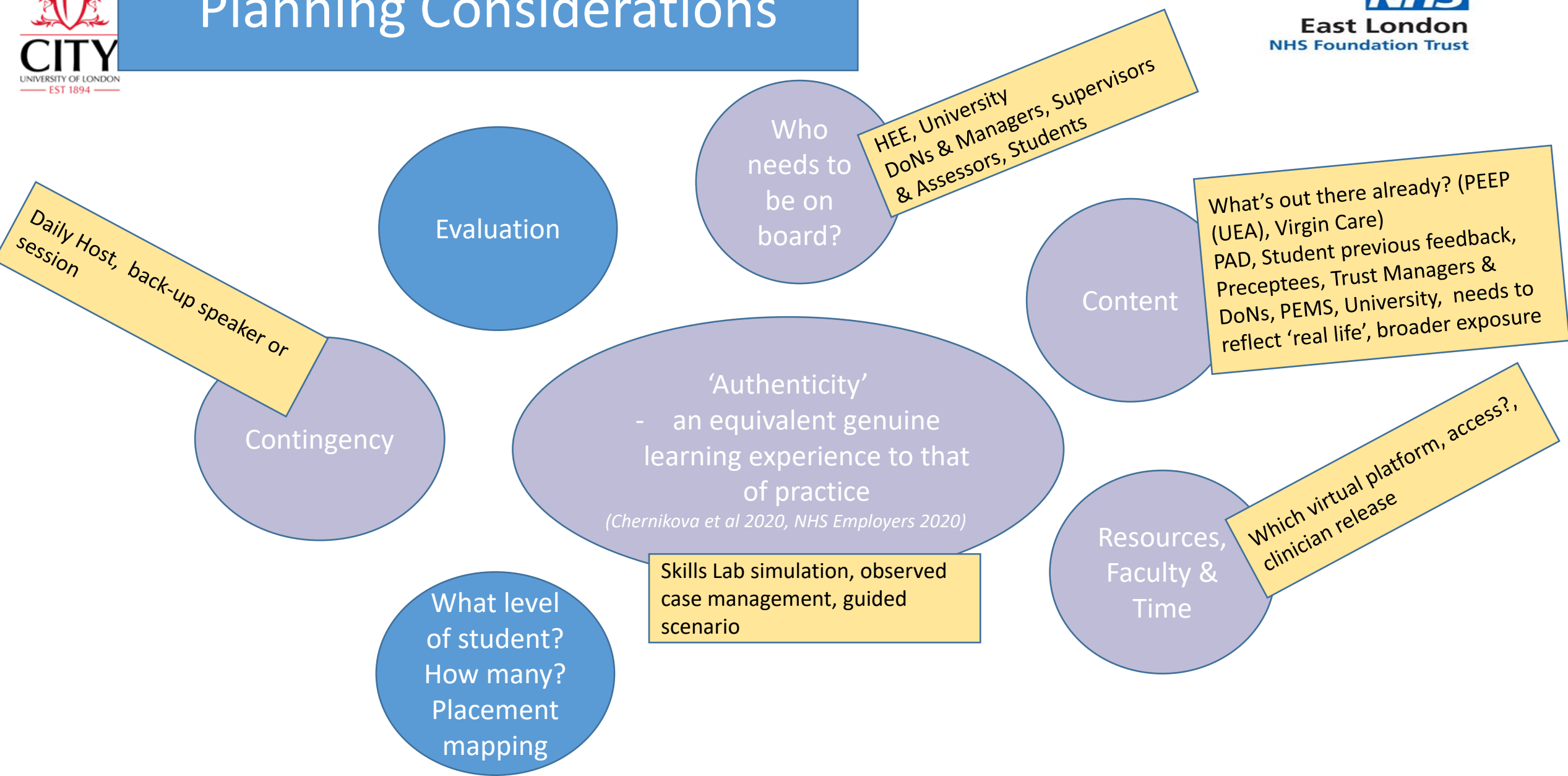
HEE funded pilot -
sustainability



CHALLENGES:

- Provider capacity – physical space, supervisors & assessors, retrieval placements, ANA, SCPHN, ACP, service user experience
- Covid 19:
- Restrictions – in-patients & community, remote/home working, community patients refusing access
- Paid placements – accommodate ‘external’ requests
- Staff shielding, student shielding
- Staff sickness and death
- Staff exhaustion
- Placement backlog – all courses, all disciplines

Planning Considerations



2nd year BSc Mental Health (MH) Student Nurses

32 BSc + further 8 MSc MH
learners = 40 student nurses

Student Nurses on 10 week
placement: 4 weeks virtual
placement followed by 6 week
placement and assessment

40 x 4 week placements released
(6,000 hours)

Content:

physical health in mental health care:

increased morbidity & mortality factors, medication adverse effects; vital signs & NEWS2, Covid-19, delirium, sepsis, asthma, COPD, DVT & pulmonary embolus, obesity hypoventilation syndrome, TB, pneumonia, stroke, angina & MI, myocarditis, endocarditis, heart failure, diabetes, constipation/intestinal obstruction

Learning disability

Rapid Tranquilisation & Seclusion

Mental Health Act, Mental Capacity Act

Trauma Informed Care

Care planning, discharge planning

Serious Untoward Incidents

Healthcare Regulations, CQC & CQUIN

Leadership

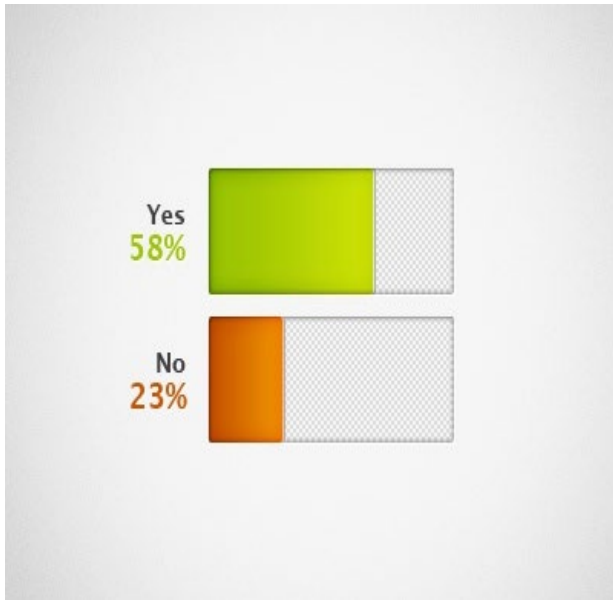
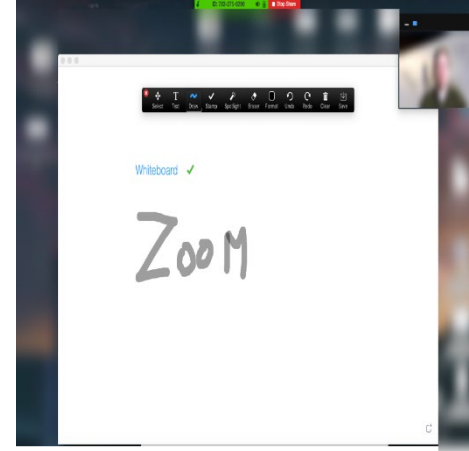
Supporting & Coaching Learners – preparation for Supervisor role

Mental Health & Sexuality

NMC Code

How did we deliver?

Multi-method, regular breaks



Formal evaluation underway; Preliminary feedback from students is very positive

“As well as improving my clinical knowledge, it was fantastic to understand the law and the code in a practical sense. The CQC and how Trusts are measured by commissioners was an eye-opener”

“invaluable experiences and in some cases more powerful than actual physical placements “

Uninterrupted
by ward
events

“I don’t think I would have got this level of understanding in practice”

“These sessions have been fantastic”

Evaluation: report end July 2021



Satisfaction
Authentic learning
Social connection
Technical

Our Learning.....

- Collaboration – different perspectives, strengthening university/Trust partner relationship
- Practising clinicians – credibility, real stories/scenarios, the how
- Parity of access to clinicians/learning may not ordinarily have on placement
- Can be applied at scale

- Admin Support – scheduling, invites, speakers
- Preparation of supervisors & assessors
- Co-host
- Faculty & Contingency
- Students enjoy group work & videos

Thank you for the opportunity
to share

Any Questions?

Chernikova O, Heitzmann N, Stadler M, Holzberger D, Seidel T, Fischer F (2020)
Simulation-Based Learning in Higher Education: A Meta-Analysis
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<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.3102/0034654320933544>

Masie E (2006)
The blended learning imperative
In Bonk CJ & Graham CR 2006
The Handbook of Blended Learning; global perspectives, local designs pp22-26
San Francisco: John Wiley & Sons Inc

NHS Employers (2020)
Expanding Placement Capacity
<https://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/plan/workforce-supply/education-and-training/expanding-placement-capacity>

Salmon G (2021)
Unblocking the placements logjam through e-placements in healthcare https://wonkhe.com/blogs/unblocking-the-placements-logjam-through-e-placements-in-healthcare/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Wonkhe%20Daily%20-%20Thursday%2025%20March&utm_content=Wonkhe%20Daily%20-%20Thursday%2025%20March+CID_a308ab9fb25f75a49cd26d740ad05fb4&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Go%20back%20to%20the%20digital%20drawing%20board%20and%20get%20creative

University of East Anglia (2020)
virtual practice placement for Occupational Therapy 2nd Year BSc students
<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/allied-health-professions/occupational-therapy-virtual-practice-placement>

Virgin Care (2020)
online student nurse assessment placements
<https://virginicare.co.uk/news/we-have-set-up-the-uks-first-online-student-nurse-assessment-placements-so-covid-19-shielders-can-become-the-nurses-of-the-future/>

- How do you release busy clinicians to provide the sessions?
- Nursing is a practical profession – can this really work?
- How do you select the student cohort?
- Does it meet programme/regulatory requirements?
- Could it work outside of the mental health setting?