

Supporting Students in Practice – Guidance for Practice Partners

Sharing Concerns: Placement providers must report any concerns about a student's welfare and well-being to UWE Bristol. While students might request confidentiality, inform them that all concerns must be reported to ensure appropriate support.

First Point of Contact: For concerns during working hours, contact the Practice Support Line (PSL) at 0117 328 1152 or email hscpsl@uwe.ac.uk. This connects you to our Professional Practice Office (PPO), which collaborates with program teams and professional services to provide the correct response and support. For support outside of working hours please refer to the guidance here: [Crisis and serious concerns - Health and wellbeing | UWE Bristol](#).

Reportable Incidents:

- **Practice Concerns:** Report any issues requiring external investigation to us. This includes concerns about placement quality, which must be shared with NHSE and relevant regulatory bodies. Ensure a UWE practice academic is involved for student support.
- **Accidents/Injuries:** Report any accidents or injuries during placement to us and follow the provider's policies. Practice academic staff must also report these incidents per our procedures: [Accident or near-miss reporting \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

Managing Student Performance in Practice:

- **Early Contact:** Notify the University early if there are concerns about a student's performance to provide necessary support.
- **Feedback:** Provide timely and constructive feedback to students as part of their assessment process.
- **Action Plan:** Document any performance issues and create an action plan with a practice academic.
- **Professional Suitability:** Significant concerns may require initiating our professional suitability policy.

Professional Suitability Policy: This policy applies to students on professional programmes and covers:

- Conduct standards
- Values and attitudes
- Criminal record requirements
- Health requirements

It is relevant when there are concerns about a student's professional suitability due to risks to health, safety, or well-being, adverse effects on professional operation or placements, or potential disrepute to the profession.

Removing Learners from Practice: If significant concerns pose an immediate risk, the University can temporarily suspend placement. This decision, made by the Dean and Head of School, initiates the professional suitability process and ensures fair treatment and support

