

DIRECTIONAL STATEMENT

CONDUCT PRINCIPLES FOR STUDENTS

NEW AND CONTINUING STUDENTS 2021/2022

INTRODUCTION

The Directional Statement provides students in the Institute of Health and Social Care with a clear behavioural framework to determine their professional conduct and academic responsibilities.

The Statement draws upon and identifies several documents from the professional regulatory bodies that accredit our courses, to which students should refer (see appendix A) as these are regularly updated.

PROFESSIONAL SUITABILITY

It is a necessary requirement that all students who follow programmes of professional study understand and comply with the standards and values of their future profession and regulatory body. You are ambassadors of LSBU, and health and social care citizens who have considerable responsibilities when in contact with patients/clients/service users, carers and other health and social care professionals.

This means you are in education as responsible adults who are required to consider the consequences of your behaviour and decisions in relation to public safety plus, the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable others, such as patients/clients/service users.

Students must be able to demonstrate their achievement of practice and theoretical learning outcomes, but must also demonstrate professionalism, suitable for their chosen career. Students are expected to always demonstrate these standards of behaviour as a necessary requirement of their course of study. This includes communication and behaviours when interacting with both staff and fellow students.

CONTEXT

LSBU expects all staff and students to show respect to others as part of the diverse and inclusive culture of the LSBU community. LSBU maintains a high standard of ethical principles that are set out in its policies and procedures. The University will seek to address any behaviours that do not align with those principles. Activities and behaviours that impact on professional suitability are normally associated with a demonstration of *commitment*, *understanding* and *competence* in practice.

Therefore, you must demonstrate:

1. Effective communication; particularly when in a professional capacity (i.e., with patients/clients/service users, carers and other health and social care professionals) but also whilst communicating with others, such as your fellow students, University staff and the public in general.
2. Punctual timekeeping and attendance; this is imperative when on clinical/practice placements and whilst attending the University.
3. Good conduct in all aspects of your public life; this includes your appearance and behaviour towards others, in the University and across all aspects of your public and personal life, including the use of social media.

EXPECTED BEHAVIOURS

All students must ensure they:

1. Are honest, act with integrity and show respect for themselves and other people as a key personal and professional ethos.
2. All students must abide by the policies of the placement agency/work experience and should comply with the guidance given to them by their supervisor (this could include their Tutor, Practice Supervisor, Practice Assessor, Academic Assessor and any other placement/work experience employee).
3. Acknowledge responsibility for their personal health and safety and for other people with whom they may be in contact. This includes prompt acknowledgement of any limitations or changes in their health and wellbeing, knowledge or scope of practice expertise.
4. Frequently access their university email account and the Student Portal to keep updated and respond to communication from the University in a timely manner.
5. Ensure all data is managed pursuant to applicable data protection law, and that anything relating to patients/clients/service users, colleagues and the affairs of the placement/University are always kept safe and confidential.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

As a student of LSBU you must be aware that:

1. All students have a duty of care to the public, fellow students, placement providers and themselves. They are required to immediately declare in writing (to their Course Director) any cautions, criminal convictions, any situation where they are the focus of a criminal investigation or any past or pending child or adult safeguarding investigations.
2. All students have a professional duty of candour and the need to be open and honest if things go wrong. This includes prompt reporting to senior staff, and clear, timely documentation. Students must additionally follow any local reporting procedures relevant to their host trust/placement.

3. All students are expected to always follow the skills lab code of conduct whilst using the skills lab spaces.
4. All Students must declare any health issues or injuries that may affect their ability to safely participate in practical aspects of skills lab activity.
5. All students have a duty of care to the public, fellow students, placement providers and themselves. They must declare any changes in their health status that might occur during their course of study.
6. All students must act without delay to report appropriately any concerns that they have observed, or risks that have been reported to them, which could adversely affect those in their care, students, staff or the overall standards of care and practice.
7. All students must communicate with each other, University personnel, placement partners, and the public in general with a level of professionalism that reflects this directional statement. We aim to set a high standard of our LSBU commitment to high quality interactions and engagement across all aspects of society.
8. The same standards of behaviour followed in physical classrooms is followed online. This includes dress and appearance, eating/drinking during class, and communicating in a respectful and inclusive manner.
9. All students are to attend live online taught sessions in the same way as if a session were delivered on campus. The usual absence procedures are to be followed if they are not able to attend live taught sessions.
10. All students are expected to be on time when attending online lessons. It is therefore good practice to give yourselves 5 minutes to get logged in and be on time.
11. It is preferable, as much as possible, that students attend online lessons with a camera switched on unless the lecturer states otherwise. This is particularly important for interactive activities and small group work in breakout rooms. Students are expected to inform the Module Leader or Lecturer in advance, of reasons why they may not be able to attend with the camera switched on.
12. In larger online groups, students are expected to keep themselves muted until they need to speak. This helps to reduce unnecessary noise traffic and makes the online environment less tiring.

The above Directional Statement should be read in conjunction with LSBU Practice Learning Guidelines and requirements laid down by the relevant professional and regulatory bodies, which are designed to ensure public protection. Please see Appendix A below for more information.

CONSEQUENCES OF UNSUITABLE BEHAVIOURS

Professional unsuitability can be demonstrated through any actions or omissions, which could be judged to endanger public safety or bring the student, the University, a placement agency or the profession into disrepute.

The following list, though not exhaustive, sets out specific examples:

- Failure to comply with the guidelines, codes of practice and policies of the relevant professional and regulatory bodies in promoting and maintaining standards of professional behaviour.
- Poor attendance and timekeeping in the practice placement or University (the student is required to attend all scheduled activity).
- Failure to communicate with the University or practice placement area within 24-48 hours.
- Failure to exercise due consideration for the safety and welfare of patients/clients/service users, colleagues, University and practice staff.
- Failure to demonstrate consistent and safe application to the development of professional skills (through appropriate participation in the learning and practice assessment process).
- Unacceptable behaviour in any environment or using social media which may reflect badly on one student personally or which may compromise the reputation of the University or the reputation of any applicable trusts, health service, work experience providers, local authorities, independent bodies, voluntary bodies and their professions.
- Any behaviour that leads to a justified formal complaint from a service provider, LSBU staff, a work experience provider, externally provided training and trainers or a practice placement area.
- Any action leading to a disciplinary procedure, either on the part of the University or a practice placement agency, or relating to criminal allegations and convictions.
- Discussing patients/clients outside of the practice/placement learning environment and use of patient/Trust-identifiable information in academic work.
- Disclosing personal details about yourself to patients/clients/service users beyond therapeutic boundaries and adhere to professional boundaries.

Issues associated with the professional suitability of individual students will be considered and further actions agreed through either the Fitness to Study, or the Fitness to Practise Procedure following consideration of available evidence.

Thereafter the following sanctions, dependant on circumstances may be applied:

- Fitness to Study procedure invoked (this relates to academic aspects only).
- Fitness to Practise procedures invoked (this relates to practice and potential to complete a professional programme of study).
- Student Disciplinary procedures invoked (this relates to student misconduct and dependent on the circumstances a student may find themselves subject to all procedures)
- Dependent on the individual circumstances of each incident the University reserves the right to either suspend one procedure until the outcome of the other is complete or decide not to pursue one procedure in favour of the other.

Outcomes and consequences of these two processes are that:

- Specific written warning letter following inappropriate behaviour which remains on the student's file for a specified length of time.
- Delay in qualification (requirement to make up time).

- Referral/deferral in a module.
- Referral in a level of study.
- Termination of the education programme.
- Withholding of an award.

All students must consent to participate in the practical skills lab activities as stated by their course/programme requirements (or as course level individual risk assessment indicates).

Appendix A

- ❑ London South Bank University Course Guide for your specific programme of study.
(Handbooks are published annually within the Institute and made available online for each student at the commencement of each academic year)
- ❑ Skills Lab code of conduct
- ❑ Fitness to Practice
- ❑ *Practice Learning Guidelines (course specific and published annually)*
- ❑ Clinical and procedural policies provided in each health/social care agency within which students acquire clinical experience
(Such policies are available for inspection in the clinical practice area)

External Policies

- ❑ British Association of Sport Rehabilitators and Trainers (BASRaT) Code of Conduct
<https://www.basrat.org/>
- ❑ Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) Code of Members' Professional Values and Behaviour <http://www.csp.org.uk/publications/code-members-professional-values-behaviour>
- ❑ Data Protection Act 1998, Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)(EU) 2016/679 <https://www.gov.uk/data-protection>
- ❑ Freedom of Information Act 2000 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/contents>
- ❑ General Chiropractic Council (GCC) The UK wide statutory body for chiropractors
<https://www.gcc-uk.org/>
- ❑ General Chiropractic Council (GCC) Guidance for students <https://www.gcc-uk.org/education-and-registration/students>
- ❑ HCPC Guidance on Conduct and Ethics for Students
<https://www.hcpcuk.org/globalassets/resources/guidance/guidance-on-conduct-and-ethics-for-students.pdf>
- ❑ HCPC Guidance on the use of social media <https://www.hcpc-uk.org/standards/meeting-our-standards/communication-and-using-social-media/guidance-on-use-of-social-media/>
- ❑ London South Bank University (LSBU) Policies and Procedures
<https://www.lsbu.ac.uk/about-us/policies-regulations-procedures>
- ❑ Nursing and Midwifery Council. Raising concerns: Guidance for nurses and midwives, London, NMC.
<https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/guidance/raising-concerns-guidance-for-nurses-and-midwives/>
- ❑ Nursing and Midwifery Council. Guidance on Health and Character
<https://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/nmc-publications/guidance-on-health-and-character-august-2020.pdf>
- ❑ Nursing and Midwifery Council. Guidance for approved educational programmes
<https://www.nmc.org.uk/education/approved-programmes/>

- ❑ Nursing and Midwifery Council. Guidance on professional conduct for nursing and midwifery students, London, NMC. <http://www.staff.city.ac.uk/m.j.jones/PDFs/Guidance-on-professional-conduct-for-nursing-and-midwifery-students-September-2010.pdf>
- ❑ Nursing and Midwifery Council. The Code: Standards of conduct, performance and ethics for nurses and midwives, London, NMC. <https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/code/>
- ❑ Nursing and Midwifery Council. Guidance on the professional duty of candour, London NMC <http://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/guidance/the-professional-duty-of-candour/>
- ❑ Nursing and Midwifery Council. Guidance on using social media responsibly, London NMC. <https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/guidance/social-media-guidance/>
- ❑ Social Work England Professional Standards <https://www.socialworkengland.org.uk/standards/professional-standards/>
- ❑ The Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT) Standards and Ethics <https://www.rcot.co.uk/practice-resources/rcot-publications/downloads/rcot-standards-and-ethics>
- ❑ The British Association of Social Workers (BASW). The independent professional membership organisation for social work and Social Work England. A specialise regulator focussed on enabling positive change in social work <https://www.basw.co.uk/>
- ❑ The College of Operating Department of Practitioners (CIDO) offers advice and guidance on professional issues for all those working in the field of operating department practice <https://www.unison.org.uk/at-work/health-care/representing-you/unison-partnerships/codp/#:~:text=ODPs%20are%20highly%20skilled%20and,the%20post%20Danae%20sthetic%20care%20phase.>
- ❑ The Society of Radiographers (SoR) Code of professional Conduct <https://www.sor.org/learning/document-library/code-professional-conduct>

I have read the content of this form. The form will be archived on InVu. I acknowledge and consent to the Institute of Health and Social care processing my information. I acknowledge that the Institute needs this information as part of its duty of care to students studying health and social care courses and for the purposes of information needed when students request references for admission to professional body register.

Please tick this box to agree to the above

Your Details

Student ID

First Name

Surname

Date

Signature

Send

2021/22 – London South Bank University:

Institute of Health and Social Care

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