

UoN Dietetics

Newsletter Summer

2025

Dear colleagues

From the university team we wanted to take this opportunity to touch base and update you about our students at Nottingham. However, firstly we need to say Thank You so much for your support with our recent A placements and currently with our B students.

Kathy collected some lovely comments from the first-year students including:

“I recently spent my one-week A placement at King’s Mill hospital in Mansfield. This was a fantastic experience where I got to shadow dietitians on different wards and in clinics, which gave me the opportunity to see the variety of what dietitians can do...and I feel like I learned a lot in a short space of time”.

“At QMC... five days spent shadowing dietitians... was an eye-opening, inspiring and humbling experience... I have a greater appreciation for the profession and cannot wait to start my second year”

We will use your PE feedback in making a few changes for next year. Overall, we were pleased how the students coped and conducted themselves and realise there are many benefits to an in person PBL block near the start of training.

The current B students completed 2 weeks in a non-traditional setting earlier this summer and produced a range of educational resources and received excellent feedback from their supervisors. Half-way visits with our team of placement tutors will be early-mid August and we look forward to hearing about our students’ case review patients and how they are getting on.

For our final year students, their Graduation is on 29 July, and we look forward to celebrating with your recent C students and their families.

They have secured jobs at Doncaster, UHL, Sherwood Forest, Notts Citycare, LPT, NUH and Chesterfield locally, as well as across the UK.

Looking forward to the 2025/26 academic year

- **NEW STUDENTS** - Welcome Week starts on 22 September, and we anticipate welcoming approximately 40 students. It is always impossible to predict how many will get their predicted grades.
- **FUTURE PLACEMENT CAPACITY** - During early autumn Kathy will email you to collect capacity data (as usual).

Planning for the launch of the CAT at UoN

We have preparation already underway for the transition to the new BDA paperwork.

The BDA Common Assessment Tools were officially launched on 1 April 2025 and next summer's A and B students will move to the new process and paperwork. The new paperwork has been formatted into Pebblepad and Kathy has been part of that small group with other HEI's who also use Pebblepad.

Further Information is available on [Practice-based learning \(placements\) - BDA](#) - from this site you can access the Common Assessment Tool block, which is password protected for BDA members ([Login - BDA](#)).

There is also a short virtual course available on the BDA Learning Zone- accessible at [BDA Learning Zone](#) - you can navigate from BDA Classroom courses by searching dietetic common assessment tool ([BDA Learning Zone : Search results](#))

From UoN, we will then roll out some lunchtime workshops to explain how the new process relates to our current process. Having recently collected some views from you about the most helpful timeline to launch the training and been advised that after the February half term is best (to help reduce confusion with the spring 2026 C placements).

We will offer online workshops which will take place on Thursday 26 Feb at 3-4pm, 1-2pm on Thursday 26 March, with in person content on Thursday 23 April (part of a PE Summit running at the Sutton Bonington campus 9.45-3.30pm) and 12-1pm Fri 5 June.

These dates will be available to book on the PE website <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/dietetic-practice-education/index.aspx> in the next couple of weeks.

The assessment tool resource section will be updated and amended during early spring.

A recording of the workshop will also be available.

SUPPORT FOR PRACTICE EDUCATORS WITH GIVING FEEDBACK

A few Practice Educators have mentioned to us that bespoke training for staff about giving feedback to students, especially in more challenging scenarios, would be helpful.

Dr Emma Parsons is an Alumni from our programme and joined us in January 2025, from her role as programme director at the University of Winchester.

Emma delivers the communication content on our programme and will be delivering a series of short workshops over lunchtime on various aspects of feedback.

These will take place on Wednesday 18th September 1.00pm – 2.00pm and Wednesday 26th November 1.00pm – 2.00pm. These dates will be advertised via <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/dietetic-practice-education/index.aspx>

Other diary dates

Student Training Fora: Wednesday November 19th 10.0am – 11.30am [STF 19 November 2025](#) and [STF 15 April 2026](#) both including Common Assessment Tools and UoN dietetics course updates. Please share links with colleagues.

Mentor training: 10th September 1.00-2.00pm – booking open via [Mentor training for practice educators - The University of Nottingham](#)

Finally, hopefully there will be some rest and relaxation with holidays over this summer period. It has been another busy academic year, but working together has enabled us to continue with placements at the usual times.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to make contact.

With all our thanks, as always –

Kathy, Laura, Lucía, Amanda, Fiona, Emma, Moira and Jane