

Programme Specification: Undergraduate

For Academic Year 2026/27

1. Course Summary

Names of programme and award title(s)	BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practice Pathways: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services; Contemporary Rheumatology; Critical Care; Generic; Mental Health Practice; Neonatal Intensive Care, Critical Care Outreach
Award type	Single Honours
Mode of study	Part-time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 6
Normal length of the programme	18 months
Maximum period of registration	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
Location of study	Keele Campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	NA
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS); Skills England
Tuition Fees	The employer pays all course fees and no fees are charged to apprentice students. Programme price is set at the maximum funding band for this apprenticeship standard, as determined by Skills England, the government non-departmental body sponsored by the Department for Education (DFE). We reserve the right to increase price in future. Fees will be paid by the employer on behalf of the apprentice using Levy or co-funding arrangements. For further information please visit: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-funding A full breakdown of costs is set out in the training plan.

How this information might change: Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

2. What is a Single Honours apprenticeship programme?

All Higher and Degree Apprenticeships combine higher education study and work-based learning to enable apprentices to achieve a higher-level award whilst in work. The provision of an academic award is integrated with experience, practice and learning in the workplace where the apprentice has paid employment status. Higher and Degree Apprenticeships are co-designed by training providers and employers to ensure that apprentices are equipped with the skills employers need and to develop their own careers.

3. Overview of the Programme

This BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practice apprenticeship programme recognises the dynamic and diverse nature of healthcare and the health and social care practitioners who work at an enhanced level of practice with specific knowledge and skills in a field of expertise. This includes managing a discreet aspect of a patient's care within their current level of practice, which will be particular to a specific context, be it a client group, skill set or organisational context. This is in contrast to Advanced Clinical Practitioners who have developed their knowledge and skills to an advanced level and will exercise autonomy and decision making in a context of complexity, uncertainty and varying levels of risk, holding accountability for decisions made (Health Education England, NHS England, NHS Improvement (2017) Multi-professional framework for advanced clinical practice in England).

Enhanced Clinical Practitioners work as part of a multi-disciplinary clinical team across a range of settings, including hospitals, community clinics, individual's homes and in dental and general practices. Specific examples of settings in which Enhanced Clinical Practitioners work include critical care units providing complex interventions to critically ill patients, GP premises providing specialist

services for patients in the community and Children and Families Services units within a local council providing therapeutic interventions to children, young people and their families.

The BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practice (ECP) apprenticeship aims to equip and develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours associated to the [Enhanced Clinical Practitioner \(ECP\) standard \(2022\)](#) to enable practitioners to provide a high standard of complex, enhanced care for patients, using enhanced levels of clinical judgement. You will have the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and behaviours to support critical evaluation and analysis of problems using your expertise and clinical knowledge, seeking out and applying relevant evidence, enhanced clinical assessments and interventions to make clinical decisions.

The eighteen month programme will include theory and practice components to support learning. This will be monitored by at least four tripartite meetings per year where an academic and organisation representative will meet with the you to ensure that progression is taking place and you have the support needed to continue to make progression.

Following completion of the programme, there is an apprenticeship requirement to complete a non-integrated End Point Assessment (EPA). Skills England determine the associated [End Point Assessment](#) (EPA, ST0895, AP01) related to the Occupational Standard. The EPA has two assessments:

- Quality improvement proposal report with a question and answer session
- Professional discussion underpinned by a portfolio of evidence.

In your programme you will sometimes be expected to role play and engage in simulated clinical scenarios with other students, including the practice and observation of practical skills. These activities will be conducted in a professional, safe and respectful way, under the supervision of academic staff, according to a defined protocol.

4. Aims of the programme

The purpose of the programme is to enable practitioners who are registered with an appropriate professional body and functioning at a higher level of practice to complete a programme of enhanced practice to gain 120 credits at level 6, degree level. The ECP allows you to engage in role specific CPD empowering you and providing you with a sense of legitimacy, making you feel recognised and valued for the work you undertake. The ECP apprenticeship can form part of a career framework and trajectory that leads to Advanced Practice or remain a legitimate endpoint.

The award has several pathways to enable the practitioner to focus on their area of clinical expertise:

- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- Contemporary Rheumatology
- Critical Care
- Generic
- Mental Health Practice
- Neonatal Intensive Care
- Critical Care Outreach

The programme aims to support your development to provide a high standard of complex care for patients using enhanced levels of clinical judgement, skills and knowledge. ECP's will consult with patients, family and carer members and the multi-professional team to undertake assessments of patients needs, devise and evaluate complex care plans related to their field of practice. You will evaluate and analyse clinical problems using expertise and clinical knowledge, seeking out and applying the relevant evidence base, clinical assessment, diagnostics, interventions and equipment to make clinical decisions.

The programme will also prepare you for the non-integrated End Point Assessment (EPA) to complete the Apprenticeship Standard. See section nine for further information.

5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what you should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

On successful completion of the Enhanced Clinical Practitioner programme you will have been successful in the following learning outcomes.

Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful apprentices will be able to:

- engage with an advanced programme of study, consolidating and extending theoretical and practical, knowledge and skills relevant to the apprentice's area of practice, facilitating academic and professional development to enhance the delivery of quality care.
- extend and apply knowledge and expertise with enhanced levels of clinical judgement to independently undertake complex, holistic assessments.
- demonstrate effective self- management and leadership skills to effect change, lead and manage unpredictable, unplanned clinical situations to promote health and wellbeing.
- Develop a systematic understanding of leadership to monitor, develop and appraise staff and learners within the apprentice's scope of practice.

Subject specific skills

Successful apprentices will be able to:

- demonstrate development and enhancement of skills in clinical reasoning, to be able to act independently when problem solving,

planning, delivering, monitoring and evaluating complex care using enhanced clinical assessment, diagnostics, and interventions.

- demonstrate and promote innovative clinical practice to support a culture of excellence within the wider health and care team.
- promote and encourage effective collaboration with the interdisciplinary team, patients, their families/ carers during working practice, and in challenging environments and situations.

Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful apprentices will be able to:

- demonstrate understanding of the concept of being an accountable professional; acting in the best interest of people and providing complex clinical care that is evidence based, person centred, safe and compassionate.
- develop, deliver and evaluate education and training opportunities within scope of practice and in response to changes in practice.
- critically appraise and contribute to the advancement of evidence-based practice and research, whilst acting as a resource across organisations and agencies to promote evidence-based approaches to health care.
- demonstrate the ability to participate in resource management, strategic service development, planning and service improvement.

Enhanced Clinical Practitioner Apprenticeship Standard Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (KSB's) (ST0895/ AP01)

The KSB's represent the core attributes you must have in order to be competent in the occupation you are working in. The KSBs must be met, evidenced and assessed in order to pass the programme.

Knowledge

K1: Tools and techniques used to systematically search, select and present evidence

K2: Techniques to critically appraise evidence such as local and national quality standards and frameworks and ways to relate this to own practice

K3: Requirements of their on-going professional registration and code of conduct in relation to their scope of practice such as when and how to escalate or refer, in line with defined scope of practice

K4: How to appraise the relevance of available tools and techniques to the clinical situation and own scope of practice

K5: Legislation, clinical frameworks, contemporaneous evidence-based practice guidelines, outcomes from clinical audit and algorithms to support decision making

K6: Anatomy and physiology and pathophysiology to support complex holistic patient assessment including the underlying psychological, social and long-term impact of illness

K7: Tools and techniques to critically evaluate clinical information to inform decision making and care management planning

K8: Underpinning anatomy and complex applied physiology, disease, toxicities, treatments and interventions which guide the selection of specialist diagnostics

K9: Methods to support complex intervention decision making aligned to national and international guidelines

K10: Principles and theories of co-production, health coaching, peer support and self-management used to build knowledge, skills and confidence to enable patient self-management

K11: Diverse sources of information and evidence to underpin decision making and techniques to interpret and assimilate a diverse range of information and evidence

K12: Principles and theories of coaching used in supporting others in complex clinical decision making and care delivery

K13: Principles and theories of leadership and role modelling

K14: Tools and procedures for conducting a training needs analysis

K15: Teaching, learning and assessment theories, techniques, innovations and models relevant to the educational activity including ways to facilitate a positive learning environment

K16: Models, tools and frameworks for receiving and providing constructive feedback

K17: Principles of different communication strategies and theories, communication modes (written, digital, verbal, non-verbal) and clinical communication tools

K18: Models and theories for negotiating and mediating, such as de-escalation and diffusing strategies

K19: Communication strategies and tools used to share complex information with different audiences and individuals

K20: Principles of change management and co-production to support clinical innovation in the workplace

K21: Local and national approaches and planning processes to support quality improvement

K22: Service evaluation, research and audit techniques to support quality improvement processes within area of enhanced clinical practice

K23: The role and impact of reflection in improving clinical practice and best-practice methods for clinical supervision

K24: Signs and pathophysiology of deterioration or distress in mental, physical, cognitive and behavioural health in own scope of

practice

K25: Protocols and systems used to plan, prioritise and direct resources within area of enhanced clinical practice and how to escalate to and engage others when working at the boundaries of scope of practice

K26: Evidence-based strategies to manage clinical risk in enhanced clinical practice

K27: Principles of psychological well-being, the importance of maintaining own and others well-being and counselling techniques used within own scope of practice

K28: Employer policy and procedures for resource management and reporting

K29: Strategies to plan and prioritise resources and manage immediate and longer-term service requirements

K30: Local, regional, and national strategic priorities for patient populations within area of specialist practice

K31: Principles of mentoring and preceptorship and how these differ from counselling, coaching and teaching

K32: Local appraisal policy and systems and own responsibility in relation to appraisal of others

Skills

S1: Conduct systematic literature searches to source evidence to inform enhanced clinical practice

S2: Critically appraise evidence and use findings to plan and provide enhanced patient-centred clinical care

S3: Provide enhanced clinical care in line with professional registration, code of conduct and defined scope of practice, being responsible and accountable for own decisions, actions and omissions

S4: Select available tools, technologies and techniques needed to perform complex and holistic assessments

S5: Assimilate, synthesise and apply complex information to promote and advocate best interests of others, upholding the principles of safeguarding and evidence-based practice

S6: Undertake holistic patient-centred assessments using available tools, technologies and techniques

S7: Analyse the data arising from the assessment process to inform clinical decision-making

S8: Identify, request and interpret specialist diagnostics within own scope of practice to inform the delivery and management of specialist care for patients and families

S9: Develop, implement and evaluate an enhanced care management plan which may include interventions and referral to other members of the multidisciplinary team or other agencies

S10: Prepare and support patients and families to manage their own health and care as independently as possible

S11: Interpret, assimilate and draw conclusions using diverse sources of information and evidence to inform clinical reasoning

S12: Direct others to sources of information and evidence, coaching and supporting them in applying information and evidence in complex clinical decision making

S13: Provide leadership within scope of own role and positive role-modelling for others in the multidisciplinary team

S14: Identify training and education needs of others in the workplace

S15: Plan and facilitate the delivery of practice-based education, training and assessment activities

S16: Evaluate the effectiveness of training and education activities

S17: Use communication strategies suitable for a variety of situations including sensitive and distressing topics

S18: Use strategies to manage conflict and challenge

S19: Discuss complex information with patients, their families, the multi-disciplinary team and other agencies

S20: Challenge ineffective systems and processes and support others to identify the need for change within their area of enhanced clinical practice

S21: Contribute to quality improvement plans and strategies to support a culture of continuous quality improvement within area of enhanced clinical practice

S22: Participate in quality improvement activities, such as audit, service evaluations and research projects within area of enhanced clinical practice

S23: Reflect on own and others' practice using clinical supervision processes

S24: Identify and act on evidence of unexpected change or patient deterioration within own scope of practice

S25: Manage self and others in unpredictable and complex environments, instigating clinical interventions where protocols may not be available

S26: Identify and manage risk to patient safety and others in an unpredictable and complex environment

S27: Counsel patients, family, carers and others to manage psychological well-being of self and others

S28: Contribute to efficient resource management within the workplace

S29: Plan, prioritise and deliver enhanced clinical care within a defined resource

S30: Contribute to the drafting of business cases or project proposals

S31: Provide mentorship, opportunity for peer-learning and constructive feedback to guide, support, motivate and develop others in the multidisciplinary team

S32: Contribute to the appraisal of individuals in the multidisciplinary team

Behaviours

B1: Treat people with dignity, respecting individual's diversity, beliefs, culture, needs, values, privacy and preferences

B2: Show respect and empathy for those you work with

B3: Be adaptable, reliable and consistent

Keele Graduate Attributes

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social, environmental and ethical responsibility**. You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

6. How is the programme taught?

To prepare you to contribute positively to clinical practice the educational and learning process will relate to the integration of theory to practice.

The learning and teaching methods of delivery will follow a blended learning approach, using blended learning of synchronous, asynchronous, face to face and online methods according to the subject matter and module assessments. The learning methods will support you to meet the learning outcomes by providing a balance of independent, supported learning, the provision of dialogue and development of skills and knowledge through peer and expert support. Critical thinking aligned with contemporary evidence are also essential for development of competent practice.

The principle learning and teaching methods used in the programme are:

- observation and supervised practice- students are supported in clinical practice by their Practice Assessor/ Practice Supervisor.
- web- based learning- using the Keele Learning Environment (KLE, Blackboard), Microsoft Teams and similar platforms. Module details, learning materials, synchronous and asynchronous activities will be hosted on these sites.
- seminars and workshops- a series of face to face and online tutor/ group-led activities per module.
- group work and peer support- all modules use focused groupwork and classroom discussion to inform learning, either face to face or online
- directed study- time to develop a portfolio, and add breadth and depth to knowledge and practice skills

Apart from these formal activities, you are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning you may have, with your Academic Mentor or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

In addition, you will participate in tripartite reviews, held at regular intervals, typically four per annum. A representative from the programme and clinical practice will attend these meetings to reflect on progress and explore requirements to provide additional experience or support that may be required.

As an apprentice, employers will support you with at least one day '6 hours' per week or equivalent. The rest of the week will be spent in your typical clinical role.

Throughout the period of study apprentices can access the Student Experience and Support team based within the faculty. These teams are part of student services, working closely with other teams such as counselling, disability and dyslexia and chaplaincy ensuring students can access the support they need

[\(https://www.keele.ac.uk/students/student-services/student-experience-and-support/\)](https://www.keele.ac.uk/students/student-services/student-experience-and-support/).

7. Teaching Staff

The teaching staff involved with the BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practice programme consists of lecturers with specialist expertise relating to the programme and module content.

All members of staff are registered with the appropriate Professional Body. Many members of staff have higher degrees and PhDs in disciplines relating to the core modules of the pathway. Some staff are active researchers publishing extensively in national and international journals. The majority of staff have recognised and recordable teaching qualifications. Moreover, they have extensive experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level and many are External Examiners to undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in other Higher Education Institutes. A number of teaching staff hold fellowship or senior fellowship status with Advance HE, demonstrating expertise in engaging with a broad understanding of effective approaches to learning and teaching support as a key contribution to high quality student learning. [Fellowship | Advance HE \(advance-he.ac.uk\)](https://www.advance-he.ac.uk/fellowship)

Honorary lecturers, visiting lecturers and lead clinicians are integral to the delivery of modules within the programme.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to the core teaching team, however delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to an appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill, or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme delivery and content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on you is limited if such changes occur.

8. What is the structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to September and is divided into three trimesters. Apprentices can potentially step on the programme at any of these semester points, depending on the selected route, options and individualised programme mapping performed during the informal interview. Our degree courses are organised into modules. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from module to module.

Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are two types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules;

For further information on the content of modules currently offered, including the list of elective modules, please visit:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/>

The BSc(Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practice award comprises of several pathways:

- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- Contemporary Rheumatology
- Critical Care
- Generic
- Mental Health Practice
- Neonatal Intensive Care
- Critical Care Outreach

Each pathway comprises of specifically focused and core modules, to be completed typically over eighteen months. Apprentices can join the programme at any trimester point in their particular pathway. Some of the compulsory modules are shared with other programmes and pathways, this enhances the interprofessional learning with colleagues from a range of disciplines and clinical areas. You will typically undertake and study modules totaling 75 credits in year one and 45 credits year two, providing you with 120 overall.

BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practice Pathway Plan

Year 1			
Pathway	Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	Assessment and Treatment of Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Problems (NUR 30238, 30 credits) Clinical Practice (NUR 30163, 15 credits)		Research Application in Clinical Practice (NUR 30233, 15 credits) AND Option (15 credits): Independent Professional Practice (IPPD) (NUR 30239); or Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare (NUR 30152) or alternative discipline specific module
Critical Care	Critical Care (NUR 40045, 30 credits) Clinical Practice (NUR 30163, 15 credits)		Research Application in Clinical Practice (NUR 30233, 15 credits) AND Option (15 credits): Independent Professional Practice (IPPD) (NUR 30239); or Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare (NUR 30152) or alternative discipline specific module
Generic	An Introduction to Adult Assessment (NUR 30240, 30 credits)		Option (30 credits): Independent Professional Practice (IPPD) (NUR 30171) OR Option (2 x15 credits) Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare (NUR 30152, and alternative discipline specific module or Independent Professional Practice (IPPD) (NUR 30239)
	Research Application in Clinical Practice (NUR 30233, 15 credits)		

Contemporary Rheumatology	Introduction to Arthritis and Allied Conditions (NUR 30018, 15 credits)	Management of Arthritis (NUR 30019, 15 credits)	Research Application in Clinical Practice (NUR 30233, 15 credits) AND Option (15 credits): Independent Professional Practice (IPPD) (NUR 30239); or Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare (NUR 30152) or alternative discipline specific module
	Clinical Practice (NUR 30163, 15 credits)		
Mental Health Practice	Mental Health Assessment (NUR 30237, 30 credits)		Research Application in Clinical Practice (NUR 30233, 15 credits) AND Option (15 credits): Independent Professional Practice (IPPD) (NUR 30239); or Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare (NUR 30152) or alternative discipline specific module
	Clinical Practice (NUR 30163, 15 credits)		
Neonatal Intensive Care	Research Application in Clinical Practice (NUR 30233, 15 credits)	Independent Professional Practice (IPPD) (NUR 30171, 30 credits)	Practice Focused Neonatal Intensive Care (NUR 30148, 45 credits)

BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practitioner Pathway Plan Year 2

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	Mental Health Assessment (NUR 30237, 30 credits) OR An Introduction to Adult Assessment (NUR 30240, 30 credits)		
		Clinical Leadership (NUR 30157, 15 credits)	
Critical Care	An introduction to Adult Assessment (NUR 30240, 30 credits)		
		Clinical Leadership (NUR 30157, 15 credits)	
Generic	Independent and Supplementary Prescribing for Nurses and Midwives (NUR-30154, 30 credits) OR Independent Professional Practice (NUR-30171, 30 credits) or 30 credits from alternative discipline specific module		
		Clinical Leadership (NUR 30157, 15 credits)	
Contemporary Rheumatology	An introduction to Adult Assessment (NUR 30240, 30 credits)		
		Clinical Leadership (NUR 30157, 15 credits)	
Mental Health Practice	An introduction to Adult Assessment (NUR 30240, 30 credits) OR Assessment and Treatment of Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Problems (NUR 30238, 30 credits)		
		Clinical Leadership (NUR 30157, 15 credits)	

Neonatal Intensive Care	Practice Focused Neonatal Intensive Care (NUR 30148, 45 credits)	Clinical Leadership (NUR 30157, 15 credits)	
		Legal & Ethical Issues in Healthcare (NUR-30152, 15 credits)	

Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

Level 6

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Engage with an advanced programme of study, consolidating and extending theoretical and practical knowledge and skills relevant to the student's area of practice, facilitating academic and professional development to enhance the delivery of quality care.	<p>Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) - NUR 30233, NUR 30239</p> <p>Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30018, NUR 30019, NUR 30171</p> <p>Critical Care - NUR 30158, NUR 30239</p> <p>Generic - NUR 30154, NUR 30171</p> <p>Mental Health Practice - NUR 30237, NUR 30239</p> <p>Neonatal - NUR 30148, NUR 30171</p> <p>Critical Care Outreach NUR 30242, NUR 30239</p>
Extend and apply knowledge and expertise with enhanced levels of clinical judgement to independently undertake complex, holistic assessments.	<p>CAMHS - NUR 30238, NUR 30240</p> <p>Critical Care Outreach NUR 30242, NUR 30240,</p> <p>Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30018, NUR 30019, NUR 30240</p> <p>Critical Care - NUR 30158, NUR 30240</p> <p>Generic - NUR 30240, NUR 30154,</p> <p>Mental Health Practice - NUR 30237, NUR 30240</p> <p>Neonatal - NUR 30148,</p>
Demonstrate effective self- management and leadership skills to effect change, lead and manage unpredictable, unplanned clinical situations to promote health and wellbeing.	<p>CAMHS- NUR 30238</p> <p>Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30157,</p> <p>Critical Care - NUR 30157</p> <p>Generic - NUR 30157</p> <p>Mental Health Practice - NUR 30237,</p> <p>Neonatal - NUR 30148,</p> <p>Critical Care Outreach NUR 30242, NUR 30157</p>
Develop a systematic understanding of leadership to monitor, develop and appraise staff and learners within the student's scope of practice.	<p>CAMHS- NUR 30157</p> <p>Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30157,</p> <p>Critical Care - NUR 30157</p> <p>Generic - NUR 30157</p> <p>Mental Health Practice - NUR 30157</p> <p>Neonatal - NUR 30157</p> <p>Critical Care Outreach 30157</p>

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Demonstrate development and enhancement of skills in clinical reasoning, to be able to act independently when problem solving, planning, delivering, monitoring and evaluating complex care using enhanced clinical assessment, diagnostics, and interventions.	CAMHS- NUR 30157, NUR 30238, NUR 30163 Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30157, NUR 30018, NUR 30019 Critical Care - NUR 30158, NUR 30163 Generic - NUR 30157, NUR 30154 Mental Health Practice - NUR 30157, NUR 30327 Neonatal- NUR 30157, NUR 30148 Critical Care Outreach NUR 30242, NUR 30140, NUR 30154
Demonstrate and promote innovative clinical practice to support a culture of excellence within the wider health and care team.	CAMHS- NUR 30163, NUR 30240 Critical Care Outreach NUR 30154, NUR 30152, NUR 30157 Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30163, 30240 Critical Care - NUR 30157, NUR 30240 Generic- NUR 30240 Mental Health Practice - NUR 30163, NUR 30240 Neonatal- NUR 30148
Promote and encourage effective collaboration with the interdisciplinary team, patients, their families/ carers during working practice, and in challenging environments and situations.	CAMHS- NUR 30157, NUR 30238, NUR 30239 Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30157, NUR 30018, NUR 30171 Critical Care -NUR 30158, NUR 30163, NUR 30239 Generic - NUR 30157, NUR 30154, NUR 30171 Mental Health Practice - NUR 30157, NUR 30327, NUR 30239 Neonatal - NUR 30157, NUR 30148, NUR 30171 Critical Care Outreach 30242, 30239, , NUR 30240

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Demonstrate understanding of the concept of being an accountable professional; acting in the best interest of people and providing complex clinical care that is evidence based, person centred, safe and compassionate.	CAMHS- NUR 30238, NUR 30240 Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30018, NUR 30019, NUR 30163, NUR 30240 Critical Care- NUR 30158, NUR 30163, NUR 30240, NUR 30152 Generic- NUR 30240, NUR 30154 Mental Health Practice- NUR 30237, NUR 30163, NUR 30240 Neonatal - NUR 30148, Mental Health Practice- NUR 30237, NUR 30163, NUR 30240 Critical Care Outreach NUR 30242, NUR 30152, NUR 30154
Develop, deliver and evaluate education and training opportunities within scope of practice and in response to changes in practice.	CAMHS - NUR- 30163, NUR 30240, NUR 30239, NUR 30152 Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30163, NUR 30240, NUR 30171, NUR 30152 Critical Care - NUR 30240, NUR 30239 Generic - NUR 30240, NUR 30171, NUR 30152 Mental Health Practice- NUR 30163, NUR 30240, NUR 30239, NUR 30152 Neonatal - NUR 30233, NUR 30171, NUR 30152 Critical Care Outreach NUR 30240, NUR 30239, NUR 30242
Critically appraise and contribute to the advancement of evidence-based practice and research, whilst acting as a resource across organisations and agencies to promote evidence-based approaches to health care.	CAMHS - NUR 30233 Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30023 Critical Care - NUR 30233 Generic - NUR 30233, Mental Health Practice - NUR 30233 Neonatal - NUR 30157 Critical Care Outreach NUR 30233
Demonstrate the ability to participate in resource management, strategic service development, planning and service improvement.	CAMHS - NUR 30157, NUR 30239, NUR 30152 Contemporary Rheumatology- NUR 30157, NUR 30171, NUR 30152 Critical Care - NUR 30157, NUR 30239 Generic- NUR 30157, NUR 30171, NUR 30152 Mental health Practice - NUR 30157, NUR 30239, NUR 30152 Neonatal- NUR 30171, NUR 30152 Critical Care Outreach NUR 30239, NUR 30242

9. Final and intermediate awards

Upon achieving 120 credits, you will be awarded: BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practice (Pathway: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services; Contemporary Rheumatology; Critical Care; Generic; Mental Health Practice; Neonatal Intensive Care or Critical Care Outreach).

By committing to an apprenticeship, you are committing to work towards achieving the final award for the programme.

The award is separate from the End-Point assessment but the End-Point assessment must be passed in order to meet the requirements of the apprenticeship.

The End Point Assessment (EPA)

The EPA is non-integrated within the pathway. Full time apprentices will typically spend 18 months on programme working towards

the occupation standards. All apprentices must spend a minimum of 12 months on programme.

In preparation for the EPA, an apprentice must meet the Gateway requirements. For this:

- the employer must agree that the apprentice is working at or above the occupational standard
- compilation of a portfolio of evidence demonstrating achievement of the occupational standard knowledge, skills and behaviours (KSB's)
- apprentices must have achieved level 2 English and Maths prior to admission onto the programme
- apprentices must submit the quality improvement proposal's subject, title and scope which has been mutually agreed by the employer and the End Point Assessor Organisation (EPAO) at gateway
- successful completion of the programme, taking into account any recognition of prior learning (RPL)

The End Point Assessment Organisation confirms the gateway evidence has been provided and accepted as meeting all requirements. Once this is confirmed the EPA period starts. The EPA must be completed within three months. The EPA consists of two discreet assessment methods:

- Quality improvement proposal report with question and answer session (achieving distinction, pass, fail)
- Professional discussion underpinned by portfolio of evidence (achieving distinction, pass, fail).

Performance in the EPA will determine the overall apprenticeship standard grade (distinction, pass, fail).

10. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as apprentices progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback helping clarify things not understood and helping practitioners to improve performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used on the programme:

- Essays: these vary according to the module. There may be a choice of a essay title or it may be prescribed. Essays test the ability to write coherently and analytically using relevant literature to support the discussion. Essays are utilised to enable examination and analysis of issues relating to specific fields of practice.
- Reflective analysis/ accounts: these are used to develop and test the ability to reflect critically and analytically on areas of practice, in order to learn from it.
- Portfolios: the majority of healthcare practitioners are required by their regulatory body to maintain a portfolio of professional development. This method of assessment facilitates competence and confidence in generating and maintaining a comprehensive portfolio of personal progress. Combined with skills of reflection and reflecting writing, portfolios present appropriate practice -based evidence to support continuing development.
- Presentations: presentations test a variety of skills, namely breadth and depth of knowledge, ability to interpret and use research/evidence, skills of critical analysis, oral and written communication skills, non-verbal communication skills, planning and organisation skills and the ability to think logically and act appropriately under pressure.
- Practice Assessment Documentation: with an allocated Practice Assessor (NMC, 2019) or clinical mentor whom meets role specific requirements, clinical competence is assessed. Together learning opportunities and plans are developed to facilitate the achievement of the competencies. This process will be supported by the tripartite reviews with the Academic Assessor. Practice based assessment facilitates the acquisition of breadth and depth of knowledge, evidence based practice, communication skills, clinical reasoning and decision making, psychomotor skills, prioritising and problem solving, interprofessional working and organisation skills.
- Practical examinations: allow the demonstration of knowledge, skills and behaviour in a safe and professional environment. Singular or multiple stations assess a particular skill, such as physical assessment, decision making, or performance of a technical procedure. Varying approaches may use simulated patients, manikins, task trainers or computers.
- End Point Assessment: required by Skills England to assess knowledge, skills and behaviour relating to the apprenticeship standard and its associated KSB's. (link: https://skillsengland.education.gov.uk/media/djpijx2/st0895_enhanced_clinical_practitioner_l6_ap_v12_publication_07102025.pdf)

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess achievement of learning outcomes. Formative assessment will enable you to monitor progress and assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how to improve the quality of work, is also provided on all summative assessments within five working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

The minimum amount of time that should be spent on off-the-job training during an apprenticeship is set at 20%. This means that at least 20% of the apprentice's normal working hours are spent in training in order to achieve the knowledge, skills and behaviours required by the apprenticeship standard. This can include online learning activities such as lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision and practical activities; also learning support and time writing assignments. Any training that takes place outside normal working hours or progress reviews are not included in the off-the-job training allocation.

As an apprentice, employers will support you with at least one day '6 hours' per week or equivalent. The rest of the week will be spent in your typical clinical role.

12. Accreditation

This programme does not have accreditation from an professional body. However, on completion of the EPA you will be awarded an apprenticeship certification relating to the specific apprenticeship standard.

13. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these will be detailed in an Annex at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

14. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

Under UK Government rules, apprentices must be employed for a minimum of 30 hours per week and must have the right to live and work in the UK (applies only in England). An apprentice cannot be self-employed. The employer must enter into an Apprenticeship Agreement with the apprenticeship student. All candidates must be employed in a role related to the subject matter of the apprenticeship and be sponsored by their employer. Applications can only be made through the sponsoring employer. The University will consider all such applications and will have the final decision whether to accept the candidate for entry to the programme.

The programme route and level will be determined prior to application at a joint informal interview with the Award Lead and the apprentice. This will then be authorised by the Trust or other healthcare organisation during the completion of the sponsorship/contractual agreement.

Entry requirement for the programme would normally be:

- current registration with the appropriate professional body
- Level 2 English and Maths [English and maths requirements in apprenticeship standards at level 2 and above - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/english-and-maths-requirements-in-apprenticeship-standards-at-level-2-and-above)
- Sponsorship from an authorised NHS Trust or other appropriate healthcare organisation

Applicants for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of a recognised qualification in English language. The minimum score for entry to the Programme is Academic IELTS 6.0 or equivalent.

Please note: All non-native English speaking students are required to undertake a diagnostic English language assessment on arrival at Keele, to determine whether English language support may help them succeed with their studies.

Evidence of English and Maths Level 2 (or above) will be required on application. Guidance can be found here, using the Apprenticeships at L3 and above section [English and maths requirements in apprenticeship standards at level 2 and above - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/english-and-maths-requirements-in-apprenticeship-standards-at-level-2-and-above)

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/>

The University will not charge you a fee for making a RPL application. Any costs occurred through obtaining officially certified translations of certificates, transcripts or other relevant documentation are your responsibility. Where RPL has been approved the content, duration and price will be amended accordingly.

You will complete a skills scan on application to the programme, this initial assessment considers any prior learning achieved against the knowledge, skills and behaviour set out in the apprenticeship standard. If you have prior learning that exceeds these criteria, then you will not be eligible for an apprenticeship.

The minimum duration of an apprenticeship is twelve months with at least 6 hours per week (or equivalent) spent in 'off the job learning'. If you have prior learning that exceeds these criteria, then you will not be eligible for an apprenticeship.

15. How are students supported on the programme?

Individual assessment of prior knowledge, skills and behaviour will be made on application to the programme, any academic support needs highlighted will ensure signposting to Student Support Services or English Language unit early in the programme.

The programme handbook provides key information and guidance on structure and content of the programme. Module documentation provides details on module content, specific assessments, including formative feedback and dates for summative submission.

The programme complies with University policy on student pastoral and academic support.

Primarily, the Award Lead will undertake the role of your Academic Mentor. In practice apprentices will be supported by a Practice Assessor. Tripartite meetings will be coordinated and facilitated four times per year with all parties present. You will have an important role in liaising closely with all partners in the programme.

Module Leads will provide additional support. The Award Lead and Module Lead will meet as required and will be contactable by email, Microsoft Teams or via the KLE.

The University has a range of support services which are detailed on the Keele website.

At your workplace, you will be supported by your employer. Exact arrangements and terminology are the responsibility of the employer but typically, you will have a named contact person who manages the relationship between the programme and the employer. The University and the employer are bound by contract to work together to support you as an apprentice. This will include 4 tripartite review meetings between the University, the apprentice, and the employer.

If your employment circumstances change whilst you are on the programme; support can be accessed from the University's Careers and Employability Service.

16. Learning Resources

Access to learning material will be provided by the module team via the KLE or Teams.

You will have access to the library and IT services based on campus and at the Clinical Education Centre.

Library Information: the library operates on two sites. The campus site houses IT services and the Health library is based at the Clinical Education Centre at the Royal Stoke Hospital site.

17. Other Learning Opportunities

A range of learning opportunities will be available to facilitate your learning in the workplace and at Keele. Within the workplace, you will be encouraged, with the support of their employer, to seek out placement experiences which align to your chosen pathway and speciality. This will broaden understanding of the enhanced practitioner role, and develop confidence and competence within your chosen area of practice.

At Keele, simulated practice will be facilitated both within the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences and at the University's Clinical Education Centre at University Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust, Stoke on Trent. Both offer state-of-the-art facilities and simulation resources to enable you to undertake practice in clinical assessment in a safe and protected environment. Also on campus, simulation health houses allow you to undertake simulated practice in a home or community-based environment. The two simulation centres will be faculty developed and led which will support the embedding of interprofessional education into curriculum design and delivery.

18. Additional Costs

Tuition fees are your paid by employer but you may incur costs not covered by the mandatory components of the apprenticeship e.g. library fines, print costs and costs associated with graduation.

Certification for non-mandatory awards may require students to pay a fee.

19. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The evaluation results, of all modules, are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the apprentice/student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of apprentices is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a apprentices degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

20. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

- a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>
- b. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements>
- c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>
- d. Skills England - Enhanced Clinical Practitioner (ST0895) <https://skillsengland.education.gov.uk/apprenticeships/st0895-v1-2>

21. Annex - Programme-specific regulations

Programme Regulations: BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practice

Final Award and Award Titles	BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practice [Pathways: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services; Critical Care; Contemporary Rheumatology; Generic; Mental Health Practice; Neonatal Intensive Care, Critical Care Outreach).
Intermediate Award(s)	N/A
Last modified	June 2023
Programme Specification	https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmespecifications

The University's Academic Regulations which can be found on the Keele University website (<https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/>)[1] apply to and regulate the programme, other than in instances where the specific programme regulations listed below over-ride them. These programme regulations list:

- *Exemptions* which are characterised by the omission of the relevant regulation.
- *Variations* which are characterised by the replacement of part of the regulation with alternative wording.
- *Additional Requirements* which set out what additional rules that apply to students in relation to this programme.

The following **exemptions, variations** and **additional requirements** to the University regulations have been checked by Academic Services and have been approved by the Faculty Education Committee.

A) EXEMPTIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where an exemption from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

No exemptions

B) VARIATIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where a variation from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

Variation 1:

This programme varies from Regulation D5 Section 3.1.

No compensation is permitted within the BSc (Hons) Enhanced Clinical Practitioner programme.

Additional Requirements

The programme requirements listed below are in addition to the University's Academic Regulations:

No additional requirements.

[1] References to University Regulations in this document apply to the content of the University's Regulatory Framework as set out on the University website here <https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/>.

Version History

This document

Date Approved: 31 March 2026

Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
1	2025/26	NICOLA WITTON	13 March 2025	
1	2024/25	NICOLA WITTON	03 June 2024	
2	2023/24	NICOLA WITTON	23 August 2023	Addition of the Critical Care Outreach pathway
1	2023/24	NICOLA WITTON	03 March 2023	
1	2022/23	NICOLA WITTON	24 August 2022	