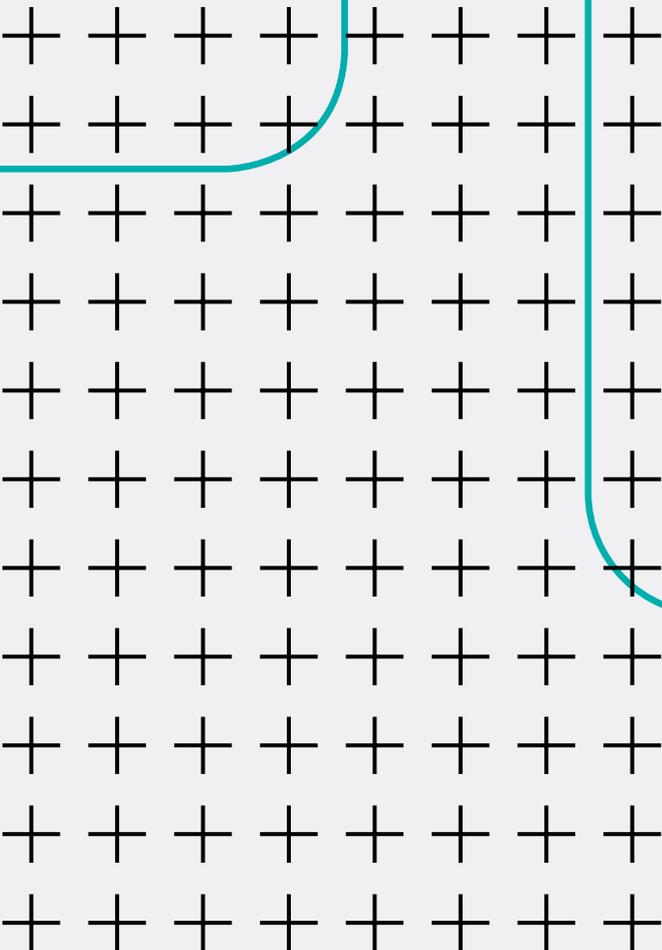
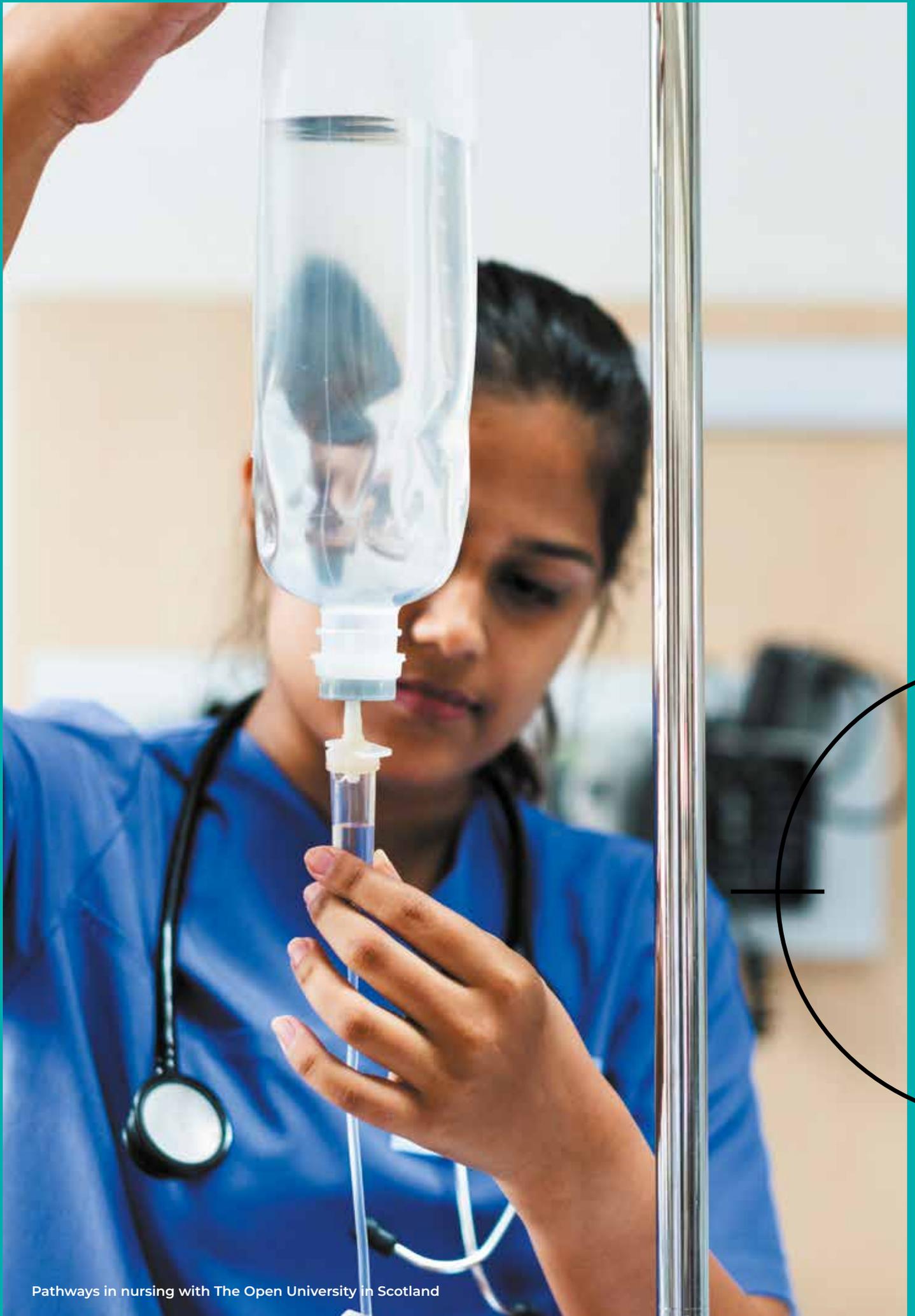


# Pathways in nursing with The Open University in Scotland.

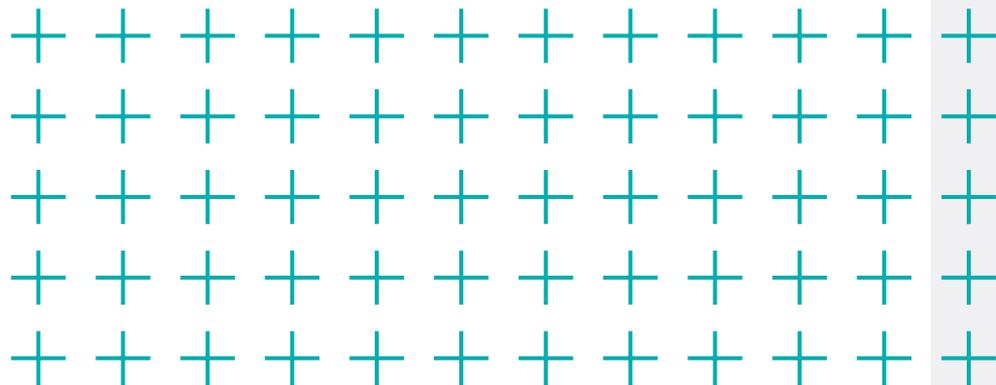


The Open  
University

SCOTLAND



# Pathways in nursing.



“

NHS Grampian have now worked closely over the past 5 years with The Open University to support healthcare support worker employees through their nursing qualification. This is a great opportunity for employees who wish to continue to work in their current role alongside studying part-time whether it be in adult, children's, mental health, or learning disabilities nursing. We look forward to continuing with this collaborative working to benefit both individual staff and the workforce in NHS Grampian.

**SARAH WHYTE**

NMAHP Lead Practice Educator, NHS Grampian

# Julie Plenderleith and Christine Somerville.

“

The Open University provides limitless possibilities, where dreams do come true.

Through studying the OU adult nursing honours degree I have grown in maturity, confidence & evolved into the professional registered nurse I am today. The OU believed I could, and I did!

**JULIE PLENDERLEITH**

OU Graduate Nurse





“

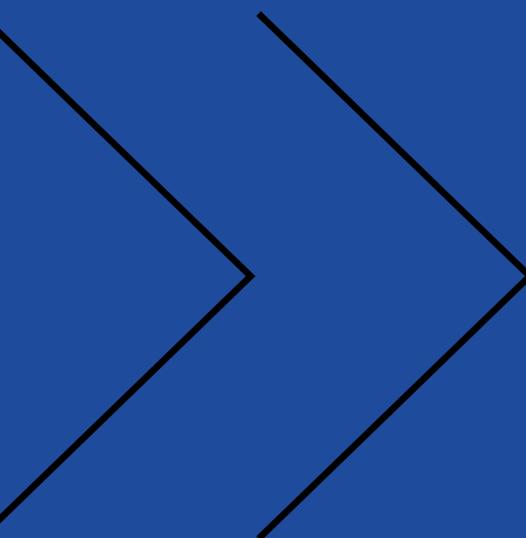
Julie has always been passionate about nursing and delivering the best possible person-centred care to patients. Julie’s dream was to complete her training to become a Registered Nurse. The Open University offered the perfect pathway to achieve this. “To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe,” (Anatole France). The first step was believing she could. This belief then made sure she did! I am proud to have Julie as a RN in the ASU team. Julie should be equally proud! I am also grateful to the OU inputs into Julie’s journey!

**CHRISTINE SOMERVILLE**

Charge Nurse, Acute Stroke Unit, Crosshouse Hospital



# Meeting the challenges.



**It's hard to imagine a more dynamic, fast changing sector than healthcare. Innovations in policy and practice, as well as new standards for treatment and care, provide constant challenges and opportunities to professionals working on the front line.**

The Open University in Scotland supports and develops healthcare professionals to meet the needs of the integrated health and social care agenda in Scotland.

We have a proven track record of working alongside healthcare providers to enhance the skills of experienced professionals and develop future talent. By working in partnership with us,

employers can provide career paths for talented employees – which benefits staff retention and service delivery.

We work in partnership with NHS Scotland boards and private organisations, enabling their staff to develop in their careers, irrespective of educational and social background: pre- and post-registration.



**Dalmellington Centre Care home was the first in Scotland to take the opportunity for a Healthcare Support Worker to train on the Pre-Registration Nursing Programme through The Open University.**

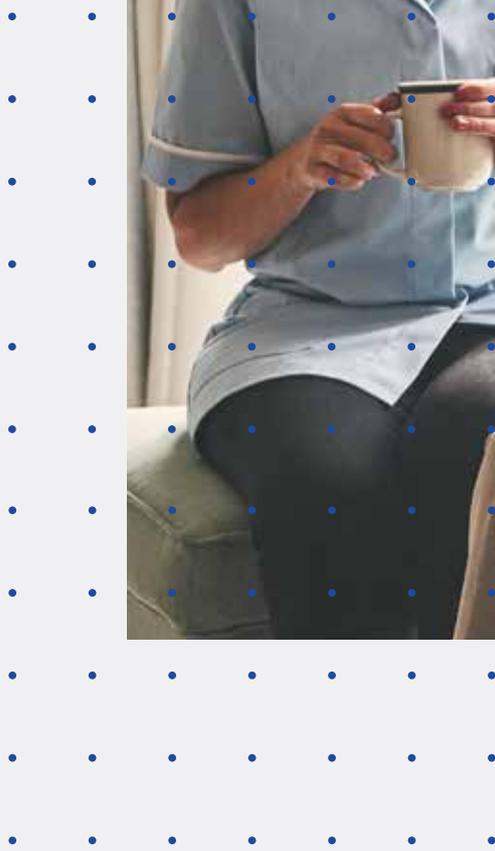
I recognised the potential of our Healthcare Support Workers and

am proud that 2 completed the 4-year course last year; both now are working as Staff Nurses and leading a team of other potential candidates, who have seen the career changing opportunities that are available. I now have another Healthcare Support Worker in her second year and two staff members who have noted an interest in the 2022 programme.

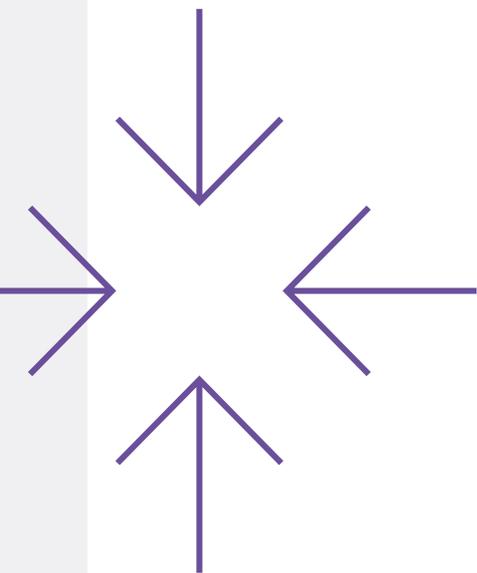
Creating a workplace environment that encourages continual learning and investing in our staff ensures a staff team that are confident in their ability to do their jobs well. It is a win-win for the care home sector.

**RAE MURPHY**

**General Manager, Dalmellington Care Centre; Doon Care**



# Support opportunities for training.



**There are opportunities for healthcare support workers to be supported and funded to undertake Pre-registration Nursing training.**

**Clinical support staff are attracted to studying with the OU for a number of reasons, including:**

- The accessibility of the distance learning model, particularly for those living and working in more remote and rural areas and people with caring responsibilities.
- The part-time route of study offered, which is viewed as providing a better option for people who are otherwise unable to access full-time FEI- and HEI-based study routes.
- Maintaining security of employment, particularly where family commitments or financial constraints have prevented support workers from considering HNC routes into nursing studies.

The Pre-registration Nursing Programme is a balance of theory (learning **for** practice) and practice (learning **in** practice). The teaching is provided through learning resources and an online learning environment, and students are supported by a network of tutors in both academic and practice settings. In addition to support from tutors, students are supported by practice supervisors and practice assessors while undertaking practice-based learning.

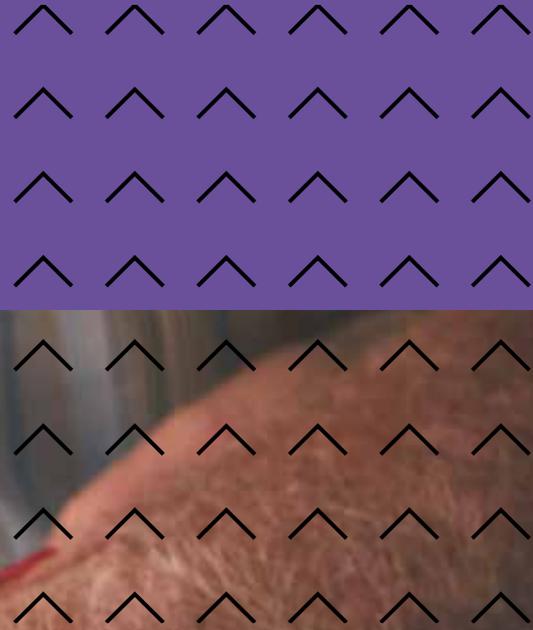
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**NHS Borders values its staff and is extremely proud to support Healthcare Support Worker staff continuing their development to become registered nursing staff in partnership with The Open University and Scottish Government.**

The programme and staff are supportive and nurture and positively challenge our staff to reach their full potential whilst they remain an important part of our team. This gives us the opportunity to develop our own staff and for them to manage their work-life balance in a way that is productive for us all.

**MHAIRI ROBERTS**

NES Practice Educator, NHS Borders

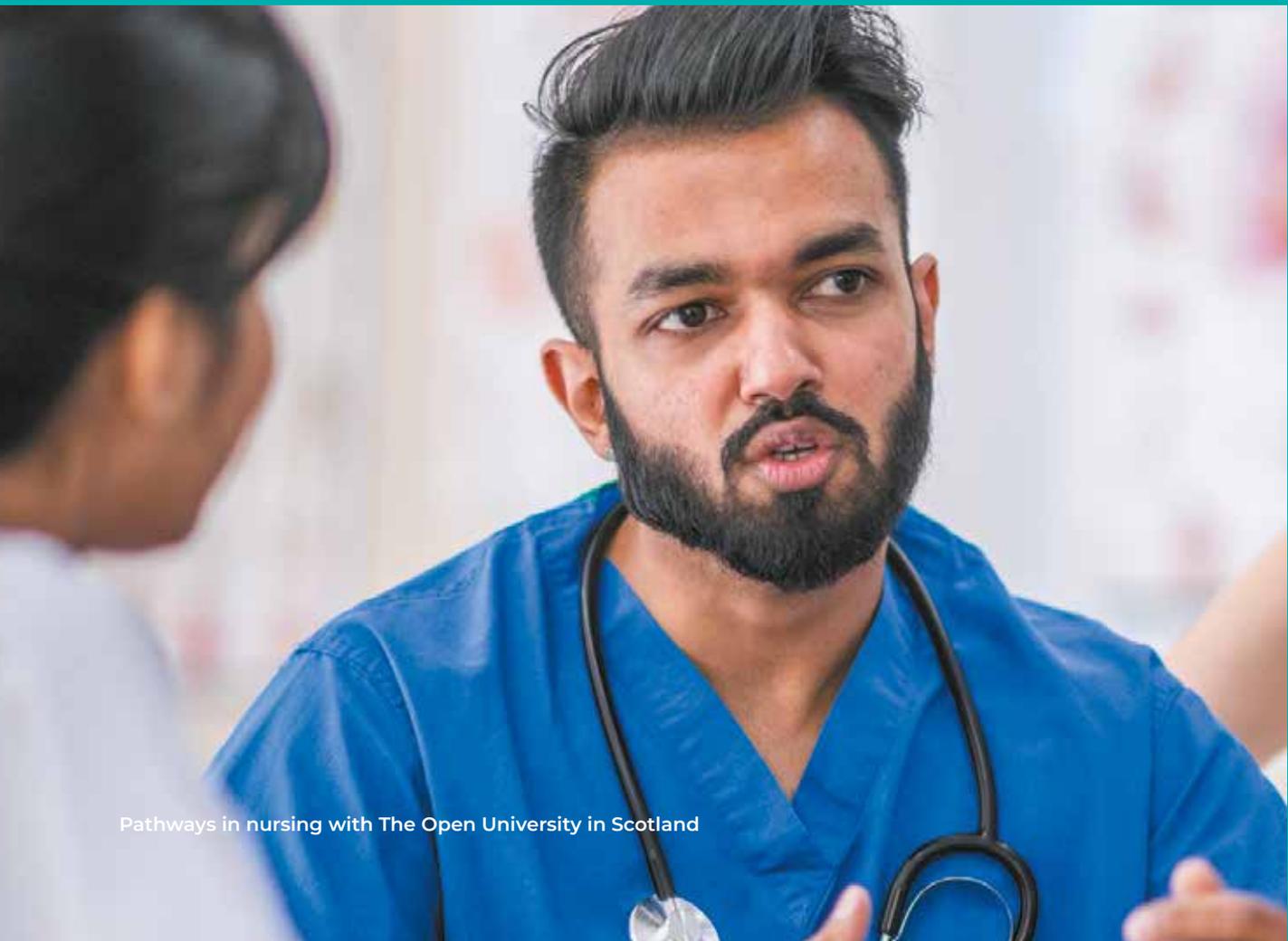


# Pathways to qualification.

The Open University in Scotland offers two routes to a nursing qualification:

→ **Certificate of Higher Education in Healthcare Practice**, which allows access to Stage 2 of our Pre-Registration Nursing Programme, subject to successful selection and meeting the Nursing and Midwifery Council's (NMC's) minimum entry requirements

→ **Pre-Registration Nursing Programme** - our Future Nurse programmes prepare students for entry to the NMC register as Adult, Children and Young People, Learning Disability or Mental Health Nurses.





## Certificate of Higher Education in Healthcare Practice (T01)

This certificate (comprising K102 and K104) will enable healthcare support staff – including healthcare assistants, support workers, aspiring assistant practitioners or aspiring students of nursing – to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to underpin effective practice.

Individuals can undertake this qualification independently or as a funded / sponsored student.

### **Career relevance and employability**

Although this certificate provides no guarantee of promotion in the workplace, it is designed as the first step to prepare healthcare support workers for the role of assistant / associate practitioner.

If individuals wish to progress to nurse training, the Certificate of Higher Education in Healthcare Practice allows access to Stage 2 of our Pre-Registration Nursing Programme, subject

to successful selection and meeting the NMC's minimum entry requirements.

### **Introducing health and social care (K102)**

We all depend on care services at some time in our lives – at home; in hospitals, clinics or GP surgeries; or in community and residential settings. This key introductory OU Level 1 module provides an authoritative overview of health and social care, with real-life case studies taking individuals deep into the experience of receiving care and working in care services. It has also been written for those new to university study and will help individuals develop the learning skills needed for degree study. Whether involved in care work (paid or unpaid), use services themselves, or simply have a general interest, this module will build knowledge and understanding, develop skills, and prepare individuals for further study.

### **Introduction to healthcare practice (K104)**

This online and practice-based module is designed for healthcare support workers in a diverse range of healthcare settings. Individuals will focus on the differing roles of members of the healthcare team and explore the importance of promoting health. Individuals will go on to reflect on their healthcare knowledge and understanding, and develop skills and competencies, including those around: risk management, hygiene, nutrition and emergency care. Through supervised practice, reflection and by studying the module materials individuals will meet service user, patient and client need. Individuals' knowledge, skills and competence will be assessed through written assignments, interactive computer-marked assessment and the completion of a practice portfolio.

## Pre-registration Nursing Programme

The Open University is recognised by the NMC as being in the top 6% of pre-registration nursing training providers.

Our Future Nurse programmes prepare students for entry to the NMC register as Adult, Children and Young People, Learning Disability or Mental Health Nurses.

Our supported and facilitated distance learning programmes are a collaboration between The Open University and our partner employers.

Earn while you learn: our tried and tested partnership model enables individuals to access our

flexible, practice-based Pre-Registration Nursing Programme (PRNP) while working for their current employer.

The Pre-registration Nursing Programme (PRNP):

- provides individuals with knowledge, skills and contemporary clinical practice experiences for their future careers
- is a balance of theory (learning for practice) and practice (learning in practice)
- teaching is provided through learning resources and an online learning environment

- students are supported by a network of tutors in both academic and practice settings. In addition to support from tutors, students are supported by registered nurses and other registered practitioners while undertaking practice-based learning.

The Open University's blended learning model allows learners to study flexibly around their personal responsibilities.





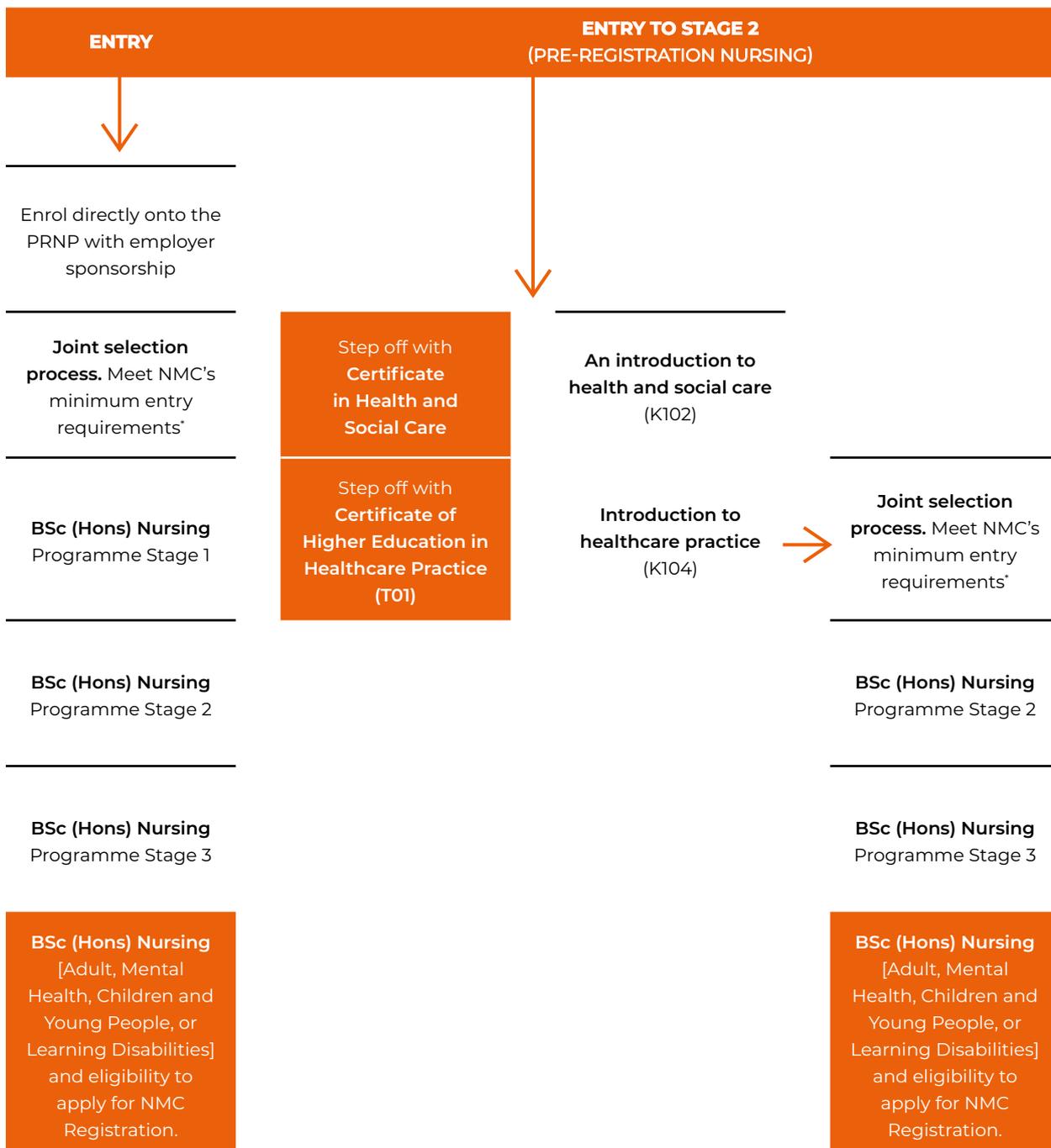
“

**The Open University is open to everyone no matter who you are, they are supportive and help you believe in yourself. Thanks to the OU I am now on the road to my dream of becoming a Mental Health Nurse. They help you find ways round barriers and that why I recommend studying with the OU.**

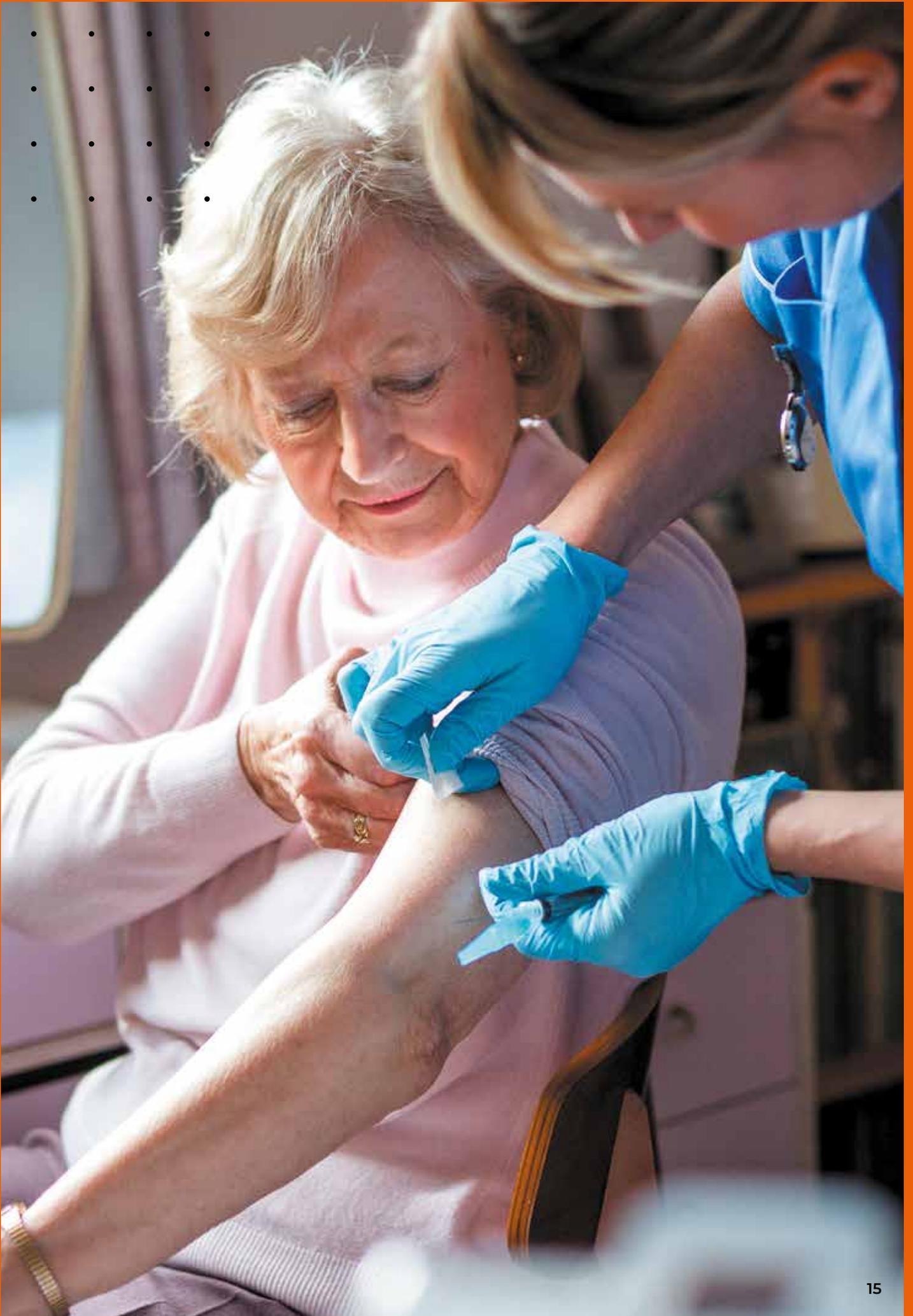
**AVRIL WILSON**

Student Nurse and Healthcare Support Worker, NHS Dumfries & Galloway

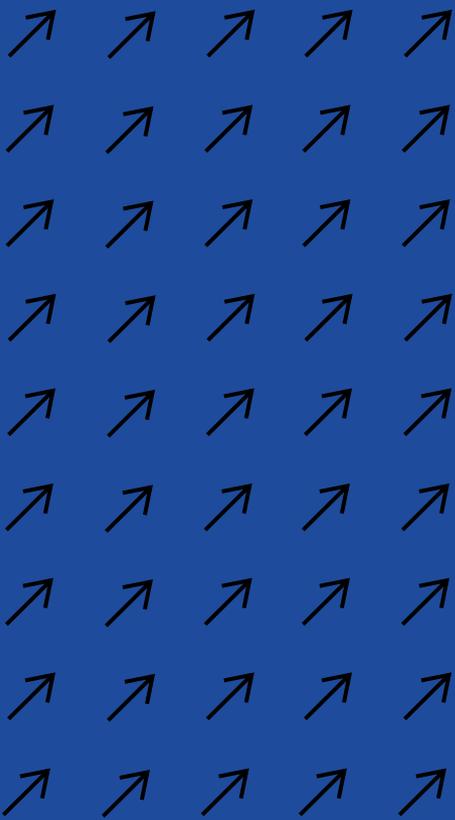
# Entry pathways.



\*Including numeracy, literacy, good health and good character. Protecting vulnerable groups check.



# Postgraduate level professional development.



The Open University offers two opportunities for postgraduate level professional development: **Postgraduate Certificate in Non-Medical Prescribing** and **MSc in Advanced Clinical Practice**.

## Postgraduate Certificate in Non-Medical Prescribing (K33)

*Equipping healthcare professionals to be independent or supplementary prescribers.*

Extending prescribing responsibilities to healthcare professionals other than doctors and dentists has the potential to play a key role in delivering improved services across the NHS. Prescribing roles build on and extend registered professional's ability to deliver holistic, patient-centred care. In turn this can help more timely access to treatment; reduce waiting times and hospital admissions and ensure members of the healthcare team play a

more effective role supporting patients and service users.

This programme offers an exciting and innovative approach to non-medical prescribing, allowing individuals to take control of both the pace and direction of their own learning. Approved by the NMC, GPhC and HCPC, it will prepare appropriately qualified nurses, midwives, pharmacists and allied health professionals to become independent prescribers. Diagnostic radiographers and dietitians may also prepare for supplementary prescribing roles.

**This certificate (comprising K803) provides professionals with the knowledge, skills and training to:**

- Prescribe safely and competently.
- Ensure patients are supported by a wide range of professionals within the healthcare team.
- Optimise the use of medicines to gain the best outcome by employing a person-centred approach.

Individuals will be supported throughout the course by an Open University tutor, by excellent online resources and face-to-face day schools. The teaching and learning elements are presented over an equivalent of 26 days, with four study days being fixed as face-to-face day

schools on The Open University's campus in Milton Keynes (and further locations subject to demand).

### **Non-medical independent and supplementary prescribing (K803)**

This module is designed to enable individuals to gain the knowledge and skills required for safe, appropriate and effective prescribing practice. It will empower individuals to enhance their role and effectively use their skills and competencies to improve patient care. Individuals will have the opportunity to consider contemporary research and its importance in the continued development and implementation of best practice. Individuals will become equipped as an Independent / Supplementary Prescriber ready to be responsible and

accountable for the assessment of patients with diagnosed and undiagnosed conditions, together with the decision-making skills required in clinical management.

It provides individuals with a critical understanding of the necessary clinical and practical aspects of prescribing in their area of practice. The academic grounding is accompanied by important practice-based learning allowing individuals to gain and demonstrate appropriate knowledge of the underpinning applied pharmacology. Group sessions will provide individuals with a sound understanding of the legal and ethical implications of prescribing.

**Visit [www.open.ac.uk/postgraduate/qualifications/k33](http://www.open.ac.uk/postgraduate/qualifications/k33) for further details.**



## MSc in Advanced Clinical Practice (F85)

Advanced Clinical Practitioners (ACPs) combine expertise in their scope of practice with research, education and clinical leadership to deliver enhanced person-centred care and to drive service improvements. ACPs undertake complex decision making and have high levels of autonomy. This includes the freedom to make decisions in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of patients; improving the care and experience of service users.

This exciting and innovative programme will prepare

registered healthcare professionals to take on expanded roles in their scope of practice. It is aimed at registered and experienced allied health professionals, nurses, midwives and pharmacists who are employed in trainee ACP roles within a supporting organisation.

Practitioners will learn the advanced health assessment skills and clinical knowledge required to work with high levels of autonomy in a variety of clinical settings across primary and secondary care.

**The MSc in Advanced Clinical Practice encompasses the four pillars that underpin advanced clinical practice:**

- Clinical Practice
- Leadership and management
- Education
- Research

Individuals will be supported throughout by an Open University tutor, by excellent online resources and face-to-face day schools.





**The MSc programme is comprised three compulsory stages:**

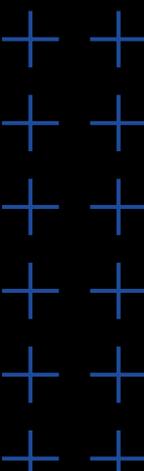
→ The Non-medical independent and supplementary prescribing stage is approved by the NMC, GPhC and HCPC. Successful completion of this stage allows individuals to apply for annotation on the register of the appropriate regulator as a non-medical prescriber. This stage comprises four compulsory face-to-face day schools at The Open University's campus in Milton Keynes (and further locations subject to demand).

→ The Clinical foundations of advanced clinical practice stage has two compulsory face-to-face day schools.

→ The final stage is Professional inquiry in advanced clinical practice, which has two further face-to-face days schools.

A Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Clinical Practice may be awarded on the successful completion of any two of the three modules (120 credits).

**Visit [www.open.ac.uk/postgraduate/qualifications/f85](http://www.open.ac.uk/postgraduate/qualifications/f85) for further details.**



## Get credit for previous study

Individuals may be able to count credit from previous higher education towards a qualification at The Open University, reducing the number of modules they need to complete.

To find out more, go to  
[www.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer](http://www.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer)

## Funding information

We work with Scottish health boards and private partners to deliver our Scottish Government funded Future Nurse programme.

Employers can sponsor staff on a module-by-module basis.

For independent students, individuals who earn £25,000 per annum or less may be eligible for a Part-Time Fee Grant, which would cover some of the fees for undergraduate level modules.

To find out more, go to  
[www.open.ac.uk/courses/fees-and-funding](http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/fees-and-funding)

## Contact us

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 [linkedin.com/showcase/the-open-university-in-scotland](https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/the-open-university-in-scotland)