

# Learning Environment



## Home Birth Team Learner Booklet

## Welcome

We would like to warmly welcome you to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (LTHTR). Incorporated on the 1st of April 2005, LTHTR was the first trust in the county to be awarded “Teaching Hospitals” status.

We have created this pack as a useful resource to help you to settle in with us. The purpose of this booklet is to provide you with information to help you on your learning environment.

## About LTHTR

### We have three equally important strategic aims:

- To provide outstanding and sustainable healthcare to our local communities
- To offer a range of high-quality specialist services to patients in Lancashire and South Cumbria
- To drive health innovation through world class education, training and research

We provide a range of Hospital based health services for adults and children and cover a range of specialities. These include cancer services such as radiotherapy, drug therapies and surgery, disablement services such as artificial limbs and wheelchair provision. Other specialities include vascular, major trauma, renal, neurosurgery and neurology including brain surgery and nervous system diseases.

### Our five core values:

- Being caring and compassionate
- Recognising individuality
- Seeking to involve
- Building team spirit
- Taking personal responsibility



We deliver care and treatment from three main facilities:

- Royal Preston Hospital
- Chorley and South Ribble Hospital
- Specialist Mobility and Rehabilitation Centre, Preston

In relation to car parking, please refer to your Induction to the Trust, for information regarding car parking. Additional information can be found on our Intranet page.

<https://legacy-intranet.lthtr.nhs.uk/car-parking-documents>



## Learning Environment

We would like to welcome you to your learning environment.

This booklet has been created with the aim of providing you with guidance and support and to reduce any nerves you may have, prior to starting your clinical placement.

This handbook is for you to gain an understanding of what to expect on your clinical placements at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and will go through a range of information to help you on your journey to becoming a Qualified Midwife. Enjoy!

The Home Birth Team provide continuity of care to women during antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal period who indicate they would like homebirth as their place of birth. The woman is given a named midwife who provides 70% of their care with support from the on-call team if required. All learners work under the supervision of a Practice Supervisor or Practice Assessor.

Learners need to be a car owner and have business insurance; they will be provided with a sky guard during this placement for security purposes as part of the lone worker policy; however, the learner will not be a lone worker.

Out of hours working will be undertaken on this placement such as on calls.

Learning Opportunities -

- All aspects of antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care and neonatal care, (including home early-labour assessments), is provided either at the home / GP centres.
- Under supervision, student midwives will be able to follow the woman / pregnant person throughout the pregnancy continuum, providing holistic care within a home birth setting and the continuity model, working within the remit of the Midwife. Recognizing deviations from the norm and referring to Obstetric Team and working within the wider MDT as appropriate (e.g., GP HV, Infant Feeding Services).

Learners will be able to work towards the following EU's during this placement:

- Prenatal (Antenatal) Women
- Postnatal Women
- Care of Healthy Newborn Infants
- Birth Witness
- Care in Labour
- Facilitated Births

- Care where you were present but did not facilitate the birth
- Episiotomy & or Suturing
- Supervision and Care of Women at Risk (AN, IN, PN) – if presents unplanned
- Breech Birth – if unplanned
- Care of at-Risk Newborn Infants – if presents at birth (unplanned)

## Confidentiality

Learners are reminded that all information regarding women, babies and their families are confidential and as such should not be divulged to anyone who does not have the right to this information. Learners are referred to their NMC “The Code” and “Midwives rules and standards”.

**Please also note guidelines with regards to the use of social networks. Please do not post pictures of yourself in uniform or input information on social media that relates to work or women in your care. This is a disciplinary action if found to do so.**

**Smoking or vaping** on the NHS Trusts premises is not permitted. Although there are designated areas, please note that cigarette smoke odours can be offensive to others. Any breach of either the University or NHS Trusts policies will lead to disciplinary procedures.

**A professional appearance must always be maintained as you are both an advocate for the women and families you are caring for and an ambassador for your university.**

## ID Badges

It is important that when you obtain your ID badge you wear it in accordance with the Trust Policy. Your ID badge must be worn at every shift with photograph and written details visible. DO NOT lend your ID badge to anyone else or allow anyone else to use it. You will need to contact the Maternity Managers or Matrons to give you access via you badge for areas within the Sharoe Green Unit as it is a secure area.

## Sickness and absence policy

Please remember to follow Trust and the University Policy in reporting absence. Also, remember to document this on PARE.

Any absence must be reported to.

- Placement Area
- Maternity Manager/ Band 7 01772 524731
- Placement Unit at the University
- Learner Absence  
([learner.absences@lthtr.nhs.uk](mailto:learner.absences@lthtr.nhs.uk))

You need to call every day for absences, unless you have stated it's for a full week.



### Trust email

Every student should have a trust email address. Please contact the Allocations Team to request one if you do not receive one. [Allocations@LTHTR.nhs.uk](mailto:Allocations@LTHTR.nhs.uk)

### Bleep System

- Dial 66 and listen for instruction to enter bleep number (the person you want to contact)
- This is followed by the extension number you are calling from (number is normally on the phone)
- Listen for instruction to replace handset

### Emergency calls - Do you know what to do?

Please ensure you are familiar with correct procedure for contacting OBSTETRIC and NEONATAL TEAMS. **WHEN AN EMERGENCY OCCURS IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT CORRECTS INFORMATION IS GIVEN.**

Phone: **2222**

**State what the emergency is** -e.g., Obstetric/Neonatal/Security

**State where you are**-e.g., Maternity Ward Sharoe Green Unit, Birth Centre Sharoe Green Unit

**State where the patient is** e.g., Bay 1 Bed 2



## Induction

The Local Induction process will take place throughout the first week of your placement.

This will comprise of:

- Trust and department orientation, including housekeeping information
- Location of emergency equipment
- IT access
- Reading & acknowledgement of Mandatory Trust policies such as Health & Safety, Fire Safety, Infection Control, Information Governance, Staff Code of Conduct, Social Networking and Dress Code policies.
- Adult Basic Life Support training if applicable
- Trust Moving & Handling Training if applicable
- COVID-related policies & procedure
- Orientation
- Professional voice: - freedom to speak up, datix, chain of command, open door policy
- An awareness of our Educational Governance Team- evaluation and importance of feedback
- Inter-professional Learning Sessions
- Practice Assessment Record and Evaluation (PARE) training, if applicable
- Collaborative Learning in Practice (CLiP™), if applicable
- How the role of Practice Development Facilitator can support you, where applicable





## What to bring on your first day

- Uniform: All other items in the dress code policy must be adhered to <https://legacy-intranet.lthtr.nhs.uk/search?term=uniform+policy>
- A smallish bag which would fit into a small locker.
- You may wish to bring a packed lunch and a drink on your first day.

## Inter-professional Learning Sessions and eLearning Resources

At our Trust, our Education Team facilitates a yearly programme of Inter-professional Learning (IPL) sessions. This programme consists of various teaching sessions, delivered by our Specialist Teams, to support and enhance our learners and trainees' learning experience with us.

Inter-professional learning is an important part of your development and allows you to build professional relationships and communication skills with the wider multi-disciplinary teams. Our IPL sessions are valuable in supporting you to stretch your knowledge and experiences to enhance your clinical practice. They also help bridge the gap between theory and practice, allowing you to hold a deeper understanding of the topics discussed. Our sessions are open for all learners and trainees on placement at our Trust to attend and these learning opportunities are an extension to your learning environment; therefore, these hours need to be recorded on your timesheets. We encourage our staff to facilitate enabling a learner/trainee to attend these sessions.

**Please note: You must inform your learning environment prior to attending a session.** These IPL sessions need to be discussed in a timely manner with your learning environment.

You are required to complete a reflection on each of your IPL sessions, as well as documenting on your HEI documentation what you have learnt and how this relates to your current placement.

You can book onto our IPL Sessions by accessing this link <https://elearning.lthtr.nhs.uk/login/index.php> and searching for 'IPL'.

You can access our policies and procedures via our Intranet page, which will help expand and stretch your knowledge.



## Support with evidencing your learning outcomes or proficiencies

We encourage you to use the Trust learning logs to collate and evidence your skills, knowledge and abilities achieved. You can then present your completed learning logs to your Practice Assessor/Educator during your assessment meetings. Any staff member who is involved in coaching you can complete your learning log feedback.

You can request time during your placement hours to complete these and request feedback prior to the shift ending. To obtain a copy of our learning logs, please visit our Health Academy Webpage on the link below, where you will see a copy of our CLiP™ Learning Log available for you to download, on the right hand side - <https://healthacademy.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/support/clinical-placement-support/collaborative-learning-in-practice-clip/>

## Chain of Command

Keeping patients safe, providing the best care that we can and learning in an environment where you feel safe and valued is important to us. Speaking up about any concern you have on your learning environment is also important. In fact, it's vital because it will help us to keep improving our services for all patients.

There may be occasions where we witness, experience or are asked to do something that causes us concern. Often, these concerns can be easily resolved, but sometimes it can be difficult to know what to do.

Our Clinical Placement Support Team are available Monday – Friday, 8.00am – 4.00pm should you need to contact them in relation to any concerns regarding your learning environment. If your concern relates to patient safety and/or your concerns are outside of these hours, please follow the chain of command in your learning environment and speak with the person in charge.

Please visit our Freedom to Speak Up page on the Intranet for more details.



## We value your feedback

Our Trust values your feedback. To continuously improve, we offer opportunities for our learners and trainees to provide feedback regarding both your learner experience and your learning environment. We would encourage you to kindly complete your end of placement evaluation, within your clinical hours.

We will keep you updated with the improvements that we make based on the feedback you provide us with.

## Learning Environment Improvement Forum

Our Learning Environment Improvement Forum began in November 2021, with key stakeholders attending; Learners, Trainees, Clinical Staff, Education Leads and our Nursing Directorate. Monthly meetings are held to share new and innovative ideas as to how we can collaboratively enhance our learning environments, to support both learners, trainees and staff.

All attendees at the Learning Environment Improvement Forums contribute their suggestions and guidance on our projects. Collaboratively, exciting improvements are implemented to enhance our learning environments.

Innovative changes made by our Learning Environment Improvement Forum, within Academic Year 2021-2022;

- NEW Learner Boards designed and placed on our learning environments
- Learner booklets made available on our Health Academy webpage to prepare our learners and trainees for their clinical placements, as suggested by our learners and trainees
- PARE and CLiP™ training embedded into our Learner and Trainee Inductions
- Quick Reference Guide designed and created to welcome our learners and trainees to the Trust and prepare them for their clinical placements

We welcome any of our staff, learners and trainees at the Trust to attend our Learner Environment Improvement Forums, to contribute your ideas and suggestions for our new and innovative projects. You can join via the E-Learning Portal - <https://elearning.lthtr.nhs.uk> and going to Courses, then selecting the tab 'Inter Professional Learning', where you will see our forum listed.