Programme Specification ARO 034a

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities provided.

This document is published on the University website and will be a publicly available record of the named programme.

The information contained in this form should be included in the Programme Handbook, either as presented below or in a format determined by the Faculty.

Section 1 Key Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awarding Body</th>
<th>University of Stirling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner Institution</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Name</td>
<td>Professional Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>e.g. BSc (Hons), MA etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>Health Sciences and Sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division (if applicable)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCAS Code (UG only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>programme code</td>
<td>UBX16-NURPPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode of Study</td>
<td>Full Time ☐ Part Time X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(if both please provide two Degree Programme Tables in the Outline Programme Structure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location/Method of Study</td>
<td>On Campus – UK ☐ International ☐ Where:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Online X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blended X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission Points</td>
<td>September X January X Other</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>(if more than one entry point please provide a Degree Programme Table for each in the Outline Programme Structure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of Programme</td>
<td>3 semesters (16 months) minimum if consecutive module study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCQF Level</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credit Value</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECTS Credit Value</td>
<td>30</td>
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PROGRAMME SUMMARY

A comprehensive summary of the programme.
The BSc in Professional Practice is a programme designed to meet the needs of nurses, midwives and other health professionals within the context of a dynamic healthcare economy. Changing health and social care services are responding to changing population demographics and health needs. Our programme is designed for health professionals aiming to continue their professional development, whether ‘topping up’ an earlier Diploma or equivalent earlier studies; updating clinical skills or developing expertise in a new area of practice. Degree-level study is now a key requirement for progression within many healthcare professions.

Key Features of the Programme
This programme responds to current professional development needs and is aimed towards those keen to challenge their thinking, gain new skills, enhance both their professional practice and career progression. Students are provided with expert and practice knowledge across a range of clinical areas. Key modules are taught by both scholarship and research-active staff from the Faculty of Health Sciences and Sport, alongside input and additional materials from practice partners where applicable. Each module is shaped to allow students to build on their experiences, expertise and interests within clinical and professional practice settings.

Many modules are fully online, distance-learning modules using digital learning technology (CANVAS) to support student study and to respond to personal and professional work commitments. The modules can be studied as either standalone or combined (minimum 60 credits) for the award of BSc in Professional Practice. Specific modules may be chosen to comprise one of the named awards below. These awards reflect the needs of professionals working within different clinical and practice environments and complement both strategic and practice priorities, developments and core professional competency requirements.

BSc in Professional Practice (Child Health)
BSc in Professional Practice (Foundations in Dermatology)
BSc in Professional Practice (Palliative Care)
BSc in Professional Practice (Tissue Viability)
BSc in Professional Practice (Paramedical Science)
BSc in Professional Practice (Unscheduled Care)

PROGRAMME AIMS

Overarching Programme Aims
On successful completion of this programme, you should be able to:
1. Gain the academic skills, confidence and knowledge via degree level study to enhance professional practice. This will be achieved by engaging in a programme that provides students with the opportunities to learn and work collaboratively and innovatively.

2. Demonstrate employability skills through advanced degree-level learning and development.

3. Understand and demonstrate practical and transferable skills with relevance for professional practice development e.g. reflective writing; report writing; literature searching and critical appraisal.

4. Demonstrate that you are a critical and independent thinker.

**WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?**

_Detailed Learning Outcomes_

On successful completion of this programme, you should be able to:

**Knowledge and Understanding:**
1. Develop and demonstrate your advancing knowledge in relation to the emerging needs of healthcare systems and professional practice requirements both in the UK and abroad
2. Demonstrate the necessary confidence and academic skills for degree level study and to apply these to professional development
3. Develop and demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge base reflecting your chosen study pathway

**Intellectual, Practical and Transferable Skills and other graduate attributes:**
1. Develop and enhance your expertise in a new area of professional practice
2. Demonstrate the ability to be critically reflective within professional practice and formal learning
3. Demonstrate the ability to apply critical reasoning and judgement within a range of learning activities

**Values and Attitudes:**
1. Demonstrate developing confidence as an independent learner
2. Demonstrate advancing communication and facilitation skills within professional practice
3. Demonstrate advancing ability to apply new knowledge to problem solving within your cognitive thinking and through your professional practice.

**HOW WILL I LEARN?**

_Outline of the teaching methods and approach to be used on the programme._

All students on this programme are registered nurses, social care or allied health professionals. The learning approach is work-based and blended, reflecting the needs of the student to gain both practical skills through combined online and, where specified, face to face on campus teaching. All modules within this programme adopt the CANVAS online learning platform. Where applicable, this will include a mixture of lectures (live webinars and/or recorded podcasts), group online discussion, guided and self-guided independent study, reflection on learning and independent research and review.

**WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?**

_Outline of the assessment methods and approach to be used on the programme._

_Assessment and Assessment Criteria_

Each module uses their own unique assessment to reflect different learning outcomes. All assessments maximise the potential of all students and respond to the full range of learning styles. Assessments may include: essays, annotated bibliographic work, critical reflection, short answer exams, critical incident review, assessment of clinical competencies using clinical scenarios, comparative and case study work, OSCE’s (Objective Structured Clinical Examinations), Multiple Choice Examination and relation VLE tasks.

_Feedback on Assessment_

You will receive feedback on coursework within 3 weeks of completion of the assessment. Feedback is usually provided electronically on formal coursework. Feedback and Guidance sessions with teaching staff are
available on all modules. These provide regular opportunities to discuss feedback further. More information about feedback on assessment can be found here; http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/

Assessment Regulations

Highlight any exceptions to the assessment regulations for this programme

None

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at the University of Stirling, please see the full version of the assessment regulations at:

Undergraduate
Postgraduate – Taught
Postgraduate - Research

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Outline Programme Structure

The list below shows compulsory and option modules for this programme. Option modules are revised over time and, in some cases, will be dependent upon pre-requisite and/or co-requisites being taken. More information about these requirements can be found in the relevant Module Descriptors. The options available each year can be subject to change due to student demand and availability of teaching staff.

- Where an “Option list” is specified, you have a choice of which module to take at this point in the degree programme and these choices are listed below
- For year 1 and 2 where “Any Module” is used it means that you can choose from all modules available to the year group and you can see the full list by following these links:

Undergraduate
Postgraduate

BSc Professional Practice: To attain the award of BSc Professional Practice as a top-up award, you may choose a combination of the following modules, completing a minimum of 60 credits. Dependent upon availability and admission criteria, this may include 3 x 20 credit modules over three semesters or 1 x 40 credit and 1 x 20 credit module over 3 semesters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understanding Pain</td>
<td>NURU152</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Clinical Assessment and Examination</td>
<td>NURU196</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Tissue Viability</td>
<td>NURU201</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dermatology for Health Professionals</td>
<td>NURU204</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Medical Prescribing</td>
<td>NURU209</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentorship Preparation (Accredited)</td>
<td>NURU211</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentorship Preparation (Non-Accredited)</td>
<td>NURU212</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recognition of Acute Physical Illness in Adults</td>
<td>NURU218</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessing and Managing Symptoms in Palliative Care</td>
<td>NURU220</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work-based Learning</td>
<td>NURU225</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn and Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway to Further Studies</td>
<td>NURU228</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn and Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIRFEC: A Multi-agency Approach to Practice</td>
<td>NURU233</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BSc Professional Practice (Named Awards)
This programme also offers the following named awards. In order to qualify for a named award, students need to complete the recommended modules and then select from the specialist grouping of modules. Students must complete a minimum of 60 credits.

The named award choices and modules consist of:

**BSc Professional Practice (Child Health)**

**Compulsory Modules**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GIRFEC: A multi-agency approach to practice</td>
<td>NURU233</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work-based Learning</td>
<td>NURU225</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn/Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway to Further Studies</td>
<td>NURU228</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn/Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**BSc Professional Practice (Foundations in Dermatology)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dermatology for Health Professionals</td>
<td>NURU204</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>And 20 credits from one of the following:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Tissue Viability</td>
<td>NURU201</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work-based Learning</td>
<td>NURU225</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway to Further Studies</td>
<td>NURU228</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BSc Professional Practice (Palliative Care)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessing and Managing Symptoms in Palliative Care</td>
<td>NURU220</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>And 40 credits from one of the following:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding Pain</td>
<td>NURU152</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work-based Learning</td>
<td>NURU225</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn/Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Clinical Assessment and Examination</td>
<td>NURU196</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway to Further Studies</td>
<td>NURU228</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn/Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**BSc Professional Practice (Tissue Viability)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Tissue Viability</td>
<td>NURU201</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And 40 credits from one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dermatology for Health Professionals</td>
<td>NURU204</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work-based Learning</td>
<td>NURU225</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn/Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Clinical Assessment and Examination</td>
<td>NURU196</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway to Further Studies</td>
<td>NURU228</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn/Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Medical Prescribing</td>
<td>NURU209</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**BSc Professional Practice (Paramedical Science)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recognition of Acute Physical Illness in Adults</td>
<td>NURU218</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is recommended that students complete at least one of the above module before gaining the remaining credits required from the following options:

- **GIRFEC: A multi-agency approach to practice**
  - NURU233
  - Credit: 20
  - Semester: Autumn
  - SCQF Level: 9

- **Work-based Learning**
  - NURU225
  - Credit: 20
  - Semester: Autumn/Spring
  - SCQF Level: 9

- **Advanced Clinical Assessment and Examination**
  - NURU196
  - Credit: 40
  - Semester: Autumn
  - SCQF Level: 9

- **Gateway to Further Studies**
  - NURU228
  - Credit: 20
  - Semester: Autumn/Spring
  - SCQF Level: 9

### BSc Professional Practice (Unscheduled Care)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Clinical Assessment and Examination</td>
<td>NURU196</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And 20 credits from the following options:

- **Non-Medical Prescribing**
  - NURU209
  - Credit: 20
  - Semester: Autumn
  - SCQF Level: 9

- **GIRFEC: A multi-agency approach to practice**
  - NURU233
  - Credit: 20
  - Semester: Autumn
  - SCQF Level: 9

- **Work-based Learning**
  - NURU225
  - Credit: 20
  - Semester: Autumn/Spring
  - SCQF Level: 9

- **Recognition of Acute Physical Illness in Adults**
  - NURU218
  - Credit: 40
  - Semester: Autumn
  - SCQF Level: 9

- **Gateway to Further Studies**
  - NURU228
  - Credit: 20
  - Semester: Autumn/Spring
  - SCQF Level: 9

### READING LIST

Required and Recommended Reading for the Programme

None. All material is provided when required via CANVAS.

### Section 3 Student Support [PLEASE UPDATE AS NEEDED FOR THE STUDENT COHORT]

#### SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LEARNING

**Induction**

You will receive induction material during the first days of your programme. This includes a range of social events, information sessions and activities to help you orientate yourself at Stirling and access the services available to you. These are opportunities to meet staff and other students from across the university, in the Faculty and on the programme.

**Study Skills Support**

Student Learning Services (SLS) are committed to providing comprehensive guidance on all aspects of effective and efficient learning. The ultimate aim of the service is to enable you to make the most of your
academic studies at the University and for you to become an independent, successful learner during your time at the University of Stirling. This is facilitated through collaborative work with experienced tutors and by offering a variety of courses, workshops and tutorials.

All students, whatever stage of their academic studies, are welcome to use Student Learning Services. However the service may be particularly beneficial:

- In your first two years of study.
- If you are making the transition from college to Higher Education.
- If you have been out of education for some time.

**What SLS are able to do:**

- Advise you on academic skills relevant to your studies at University.
- Help you consolidate your previous learning and develop new learning strategies.
- Advise on action-plans to potentially improve grades.
- Suggest practical solutions if you feel overwhelmed by assignment work.
- Help you gain confidence in the transition to Higher Education.

More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/student-learning-services/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/student-learning-services/)

**STEER**

STEER is a University-wide peer support scheme linking in returning student "Captains" with new undergraduate or taught post-graduate "Crew" during their first year at Stirling.

The scheme aims to help you make the most of your time at the University, help new students - the Crew - settle in and realise the opportunities available to them. You can find out more information here: [https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/steer/](https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/steer/)

**Stirling Graduate School**

For Research Postgraduate Students the Stirling Graduate School as well as your own faculty will provide support. More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/graduateschool/current-pg-students/skills-development/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/graduateschool/current-pg-students/skills-development/)

**Academic and Pastoral Support**

**Adviser of Studies:** Advisers have an important role to play in enhancing your academic and personal development and are essential to ensuring you make the most of your time at university. Advisers provide a personalised point of contact for you to discuss academic concerns or queries within the academic community. The general purpose of the role is to provide more in-depth advice on the academic options available to you and on the academic policies and regulations within the University. More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/advisers/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/advisers/)

**Personal Tutor:** The role of a personal tutor is to help you feel part of the University community. They are a specific and consistent source of guidance, information and support for you throughout your studies. The tutor should be the your first formal point of contact for general academic guidance and pastoral support. More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/tse/personal-tutor/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/tse/personal-tutor/)

**Support and Wellbeing:** At university you may face non-academic issues where you need some expert help or guidance. There are lots of ways we can help you in your day-to-day life at University. Student Support Services provide a range of high-quality services to assist you during the course of your studies, help prepare you for life after graduation. We aim to enhance the student experience and help you to get the most out of your time at University. More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/support-and-wellbeing/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/support-and-wellbeing/)

**Student Union:** you can also access support through the Students’ Union, more information can be found
Accessibility and Inclusion (A&I)
A&I are committed to offering a service which is welcoming and supportive of the needs of all students. Our service takes into account the full range of needs you may have, in a wide variety of circumstances including - physical and mobility difficulties, sensory impairments, specific learning difficulties including dyslexia and autistic spectrum disorder as well as medical conditions and mental health difficulties. A&I can also support you if you have short-term, temporary impairments or other difficulties as a result of an accident, injury, illness or surgery. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/student-support/accessibility-&-inclusion-service/

Learning Resources
You can find out more about the resources available to support your learning here:
http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/

Section 4 Programme Evaluation and Enhancement

METHODS FOR EVALUATING AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Module Evaluation
Module evaluations are carried out each year and are an important way of getting student feedback on the modules we teach. We aim to evaluate every module we teach in every semester. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/studentinformation/moduleevaluation/

Programme Review
Programmes are reviewed annually and on a 5 yearly cycle. You can get involved in a variety of different ways; by completing module evaluations, becoming a course representative and attending Student Staff Consultative Committees, or participating in the review process itself. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/review-and-monitoring/

External Examiner(s) (To be added following Stage 2 approval)
Name of External Examiner: Alyson Dickson
Institution: University of Cumbria

Section 5 My Future

WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON TO?
What career avenues does this qualification open up to the student?
Further career progression and professional development in health and social care.

How does this programme facilitate your development of the Graduate Attributes?
Connected
Studying alongside health and social care professionals, opportunities arise to develop new professional collaborations and utilize this to improve the health of individuals.

Innovative
Develop skills in creative and reflective thinking through enhanced academic skills and knowledge development.

Transformative
Sharing and broadening your horizons through engagement with academic learning, consideration of
further MSc level academic learning, engagement with fellow students and the wider University environment.

**WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

None

**WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

None

**WHAT FURTHER STUDY OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO ME?**

What programmes of study could the student go on to after successfully completing this one? MSc Advancing Practice, subject to Admission requirements.

**WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO I NEED TO KNOW?**

Information that should be displayed at module registration and/or on the Degree Programme Table webpages to help students understand any programme specific requirements or agreed exceptions to regulations. This could also include useful information that will enable a student to decide to take this programme, prepare for the programme, or that will be useful to them on completion of the programme e.g. professional recognition/accreditations etc.

NURU196 requires a minimum of 3 years post-registration experience and designated medical practitioner as mentor.

NURU209 requires at least 3 years’ experience as a practicing nurse, midwife or specialist community public health nurse and be deemed competent by your employer to undertake the programme of study.

For both of the above, please see individual module eligibility criteria.

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**Section 6 Admissions**

**HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?**

Admissions Criteria

All registered and HCPC accredited professionals will be considered.

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Version:

Date Version Approved:

For use from: