An case study of electronic practice assessment for student nurses

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Background

- With about 1500 pre-registration student nurses we currently educate the majority of nurses and midwives across the eastern region.
- Outstanding for the fitness for practice category in the NMC review of the nursing and midwifery course provision (NMC, 2013).
Here is Edward Bear, coming downstairs now, bump, bump, bump, on the back of his head, behind Christopher Robin. It is, as far as he knows, the only way of coming downstairs, but sometimes he feels that there really is another way, if only he could stop bumping for a moment and think of it.
Sea change
the shift to sustainability
Mission impossible?

Enhance engagement between tutors and students / mentors in practice.

Provide quality formative practice assessment

Must work without internet or Wi-Fi

Prevent fraudulent sign off

Rapidly identify students at risk of failure

Ensure induction, formative & summative assessments completed on time

Flexibility to write and update assessments

Send resources to students in practice

Include a portfolio

Include reflection

Provide quality audit trail

Sustainability

Be innovative

Enhance employability

Manage timesheets
Mission Possible
SEA Project timeline

- **Sept 2014**: Learning and Teaching Project Award to Fund Pilot
- **Jan 2015 - May 2015**: Pilot 30 student nurses
- **June 2016**: £100,000 Project Funding Health Education England
- **DEC 2015**: Commendation from Nursing and Midwifery council for innovation— to be disseminated Nationally
- **January 2016**: Interest from other HEI’s, Scotland, Cardiff, Ohio
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<th>Feedback</th>
<th>Respond Now</th>
<th>Resend to Mobile Device</th>
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Information for students and mentors.
Single Case Study Design

“an empirical inquiry about a contemporary phenomenon, within its real world context especially when the boundaries of the phenomenon and context may not be clearly.”


- Local Knowledge Case (Thomas, 2015 p77)
- Embedded case study design (multiple units of analysis – students, mentors, digital artefacts).
Research Questions

1. What are the challenges in introducing an electronic ongoing achievement record?
2. How can these challenges be addressed?
3. What are the benefits of introducing an electronic ongoing achievement record for students & mentors?
Methods:
A thematic analysis of the respondents’ answers to an open ended survey completed on tablets was performed. This was triangulated with data obtained from class feedback and information collected from digital artefacts and reflective diary notes.
Bounded Context

- 30 first year paediatric student nurses
- Module 1 of undergraduate nursing programme
- Essex
- Mentors supporting the students
• Research Findings

Three themes

1. It is important that the process of completing the assessment is user friendly.
2. There are some technical and design features that need development in order to optimise the user experience.
3. In order for the implementation of an electronic on-going achievement record to be successful considerable investment in the professional development of mentors and students needs to be made.
What we are doing differently

- Establish aims and objectives with stakeholders
- Second year student nurses
- Understand the technology
- Sustainable training
- Student website in addition to student tablet interface
- Mentor website
- Assignment completion tracking
- Two way syncing of assignments
- Timesheets added
- Triennial review / NMC revalidation
Next Steps

This project will introduce the use of electronic practice assessment to:

• Sept 2014 student nurses in Cambridgeshire (n=180). Students commence practice for year 2 in February 2016.

• March 2016 work based learning student nurses (n=25).

• Supported and funded by HEEE

• [Myprogress](https://aru.mkmappss.com/myprogress/login.aspx) site
I'm no fan of technology... have you noticed how difficult it is to eat homework these days?

What are you thinking?
The world hates change, yet it is the only thing that has brought progress.
~Charles Kettering
One must change one's tactics every ten years if one wishes to maintain one's superiority.
~Napoleon Bonaparte
Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability, but comes through continuous struggle.
~Martin Luther King, Jr.
For more information please see
http://www.anglia.ac.uk/health-social-care-and-education/my-progress