



Myles Jordan is a learning disability student nurse with the University of Winchester. He is the first student in this area to be offered a placement in a GP practice.

HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT HAVING A PRACTICE PLACEMENT IN PRIMARY CARE?

I was excited to have an opportunity to undertake a placement in a GP practice. It was a great opportunity to broaden my understanding and skills to support my development as a learning disability nurse.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

I was able to work with Advanced Nurse Practitioners and Paramedics engaging in patient triage at the practice hub and observing decision-making processes. Working with the pharmacist enabled me to participate in medication audits and included a visit to a care home to audit their medication processes.

By the end of my placement, I had developed significant confidence, especially in the areas I observed and participated in. I was able to conduct independent blood pressure consultations and played an active role in supporting other tasks related to the practice nurse role. I was also able to make decisions under supervision to contribute within the warfarin clinic.

I was actively involved in a variety of clinical activities,

- Asthma consultations
- Diabetes consultations
- Hypertension monitoring
- Wound care
- Immunizations
- Travel vaccination

WHAT DO YOU THINK WERE THE FUTURE BENEFITS OF YOUR LEARNING PLACEMENT IN PRIMARY CARE?

Reflecting on my future, this placement has been invaluable in expanding my understanding of common conditions affecting individuals with learning disabilities, such as diabetes, hypertension, and asthma. I now feel better equipped to discuss patients' concerns and needs in these areas and to offer support and information to patients and their families on treatment pathways - even if I am not working directly in primary care as these conditions will affect patients wherever I work in the future.

"I am pleased that this year we have been able to support an LD student and we would certainly be open to supporting more LD and or MH students in the future" Lead Nurse...

MYLES'S TIPS FOR STUDENTS PLANNING FOR A PLACEMENT IN PRIMARY CARE

- Be confident:** You know more than you think. It's natural to feel nervous, but don't doubt yourself.
- Plan:** Contact your practice assessor before the placement and arrange a meeting for your first day. Ask questions to understand what is possible for you to achieve.
- Align with your goals:** Review your PAD/OAR and match the required learning outcomes with the opportunities available in your placement area.