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Our ambition

University of Birmingham's nursing academics would like to invite you to join them in the crucial development of our nurse training and research.

Patient's and carers can really help nursing students bring together theory and real life to help them become excellent nurses, making health services better for all of us

Open all sections

We want to welcome service user and carers into our School of Nursing...

- To fulfil the School HaPS (Nursing) belief in the value of service user and carers contributions and the differences their experiences can make to education and research.
- To treat people respectfully and acknowledge the individual uniqueness of people and challenging negative stereotypes and attitudes
- To demonstrate a change in the equilibrium of power towards the service users and cares and to demonstrate open policy and procedures that promote engagement
- To improve health services this will provide a better quality of life for service users and carers
- To value the contributions, experiences and needs of all service users and carers
- To promote the rights of service users and carers to decide how they wish to be involved
- Enhances student nurses learning experience
- Provides student nurses with a new perspective on nursing and healthcare services
- To help developed a strategy and guidelines for staff who involve service users and carers.

Nurse Education: we want to welcome service user and carers into our nurse education programme...

- To help nursing students 'see the whole person', and respect people as individuals.
- To help nursing students bring together theory and real life.
- So nursing students learn directly from people who have been patients or used health services, as well as learning from books and teachers.
- Student nurses spend half of their courses in real work settings, where they spend time with service users, patients, families and carers – this is really important, but it's also important to learn from service users and carers who are not 'their' patients, and who have had a chance to think about their experiences.
- So nursing students get used to working with service users and carers on an equal basis, and get used to members of the public being involved in their own healthcare.
- Service users and carers are now involved with health services in lots of different ways, and involvement in nursing education is part of this bigger picture – start as you mean to go on!
- Most of all, to help nursing students to become good nurses, and to make health services better for all of us.

Nursing and Health Care Research: we want to welcome service user and carers in our research activities...

- All users of health care services have a range of valuable life skills and abilities that can help to contribute to the quality of research projects.
- They may have knowledge of a specific community, expertise gained through personal experience of illness or care services.
- Service users and carers can help nurse researchers in many ways; for example by informing nurse researcher what research topics are a priority, helping with study funding applications, contributing to study design and the production of study materials (e.g. participant information sheets).
- By being involved in nurse research, service users and carers it is hoped that they can help to improve the quality of health care and nursing practice.

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