# Standards for Student Supervision and Assessment (SSSA) – Quick Guide

*Please read* *alongside NMC (2018) Realising professionalism: Standards for education and training Part 2: Standards for student supervision and assessment London: NMC*

As outlined in the Standards and the Code all registered nurses and midwives have a professional responsibility to support the professional development of others (NMC 2015, NMC 2018) There are three specific aspects to the SSSA to ensure ‘students are provided with safe, effective and inclusive learning experiences.

These include:

1) Effective practice learning

2) Supervision of students

3) Assessment of students and confirmation of proficiency

The key roles for supporting supervision and assessment in practice are the;

# Practice Supervisor (PS)

* Is a registered nurse or midwife or registered health or social care professional.
* Supports learning in line with their scope of practice
* Has current knowledge and experience of the area in which they are providing support,

supervision and feedback

* Is appropriately prepared and receives ongoing support to reflect and develop
* Ensures learning opportunities are facilitated
* Contributes to the student’s record of achievement by periodically recording relevant

observations of conduct, proficiency and achievement.

* Contributes to assessment to inform decisions and records regular feedback
* Have sufficient opportunities to engage with Practice Assessors and Academic

Assessors

Practice Supervisors should receive **ongoing support** in order to support students, this can include online resources, workbooks, information packs and other identified key resources. The nominated person ensures that all PS have access to ongoing support. Online PARE has online resources available for PS and PA [www.onlinepare.net](http://www.onlinepare.net) .

Students can have more than one Practice Supervisor and are expected to learn from a range of health professionals.

# Practice Assessor (PA)

* Is a registered nurse or midwife
* Is appropriately prepared and maintains current knowledge and expertise
* Conducts assessments, informed by feedback from practice supervisors
* Makes and records objective decisions, drawing on records, observations,
* student reflection and other resources,
* Periodically observes the student
* Gathers and coordinates feedback from practice supervisors and other
* relevant people
* Schedules communication with academic assessors at relevant points

PA is assigned to the placement and student is made aware of who PA is. There must be communication between AA and PA regarding student progression. The PA needs to confirm achievement of proficiencies through assessment of professional values, episodes of care, medicines management and through written feedback during the midpoint and final interview stages of the placement.

PA’s must have **ongoing support** pro-actively develop knowledge and skills to achieve their role.

# Academic Assessor (AA)

AA’s work at the University and have oversight of the student’s progress. AA’s liaise with the PA regarding student progress via meeting, email and/or telephone.

**Nominated Person** – there must be a nominated person for each practice area (not necessarily based there), who is a contact for the students and ensures the quality of the placement area.

What could this look like in Primary Care?

* All GPNs PS and PA (complete self-declaration on online PARE)
* Students work with a range of health professionals in practice and feed into PA
* PA can move between practices to assess students (if able to)
* Some training hub leads have taken role of PA in single handed practice
* Students still have initial, interim and final reviews, but will need to liaise with AA
* PS can complete the initial and interim as long as they inform PA
* Students could move between practice for different experiences, but maintain the same PA
* PA will need the opportunity to observe students in practice to complete the PAD