

# Placement profile

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**Organisations**      Swansea Bay University Health Board



## Placement overview

This is collaborative project introducing a new student placement model led by a Swansea Bay Physiotherapist involving Paediatric Physiotherapy services from **all Health Boards across Wales**. A timetable of virtual teaching sessions has been set up with a variety of live and recorded sessions alongside peer discussion sessions. Each session is delivered via Microsoft Teams and facilitated by one clinician from a Health Board in Wales. This model maximises students' opportunity for learning and allows for specialist and very experienced clinicians to impart knowledge to all students on clinical placements across the country. It has also facilitated a mechanism for contextual peer learning for students placed across Wales. Previously, clinical student teaching would have occurred separately in each health board with limited opportunity for peer discussion. In just one session this model delivers teaching to all physio students on paediatric placements in Wales, releasing clinicians to meet the clinical demands and support workforce capacity to meet service delivery in a time of added strain and pressure. This approach has enabled Health Boards to continue to support student placements and offer a high standard of clinical experience and learning. It also enabled Health Boards to develop skilled physiotherapists for the future despite large proportions of the Paediatric Physiotherapy service being redeployed. This model has enhanced the experience of students on placements, enhancing peer learning and reflection and giving access to teaching from very specialist areas of paediatrics not available in all health boards. The success of this project will result in the model continuing to enhance clinical placements in paediatric physiotherapy. In Swansea Bay we are considering extending the project to wider areas of the Physiotherapy service and utilising the model to offer enhanced learning and support to the new graduates of 2021 whose undergraduate learning has been impacted by the pandemic. When asked whether learning needs were met 100% of respondents reported 7/10 or above. Student feedback quotes included- "This learning was invaluable" "Helped me gain others' understanding of pathologies and discuss an array of conditions we may both otherwise not have come across" "Very good for consolidating knowledge" "Hearing other students' answers helped my learning".

**Supervision:** 5 or more:1, Face to face and remote supervision, peer learning and whole team supervision.

### Lessons learnt:

1. Pooling teaching resources across Wales and sharing teaching time led to great efficiencies
2. The benefits of peer learning opportunities on placement
3. The innovations that digital technology can support

### Top tips for others:

- "Be prepared to invest a bit of time in setting up the virtual models, the benefits and efficiencies gained will be worthwhile"