



**Sandwell and
West Birmingham**

NHS Trust

Welcome to Sandwell

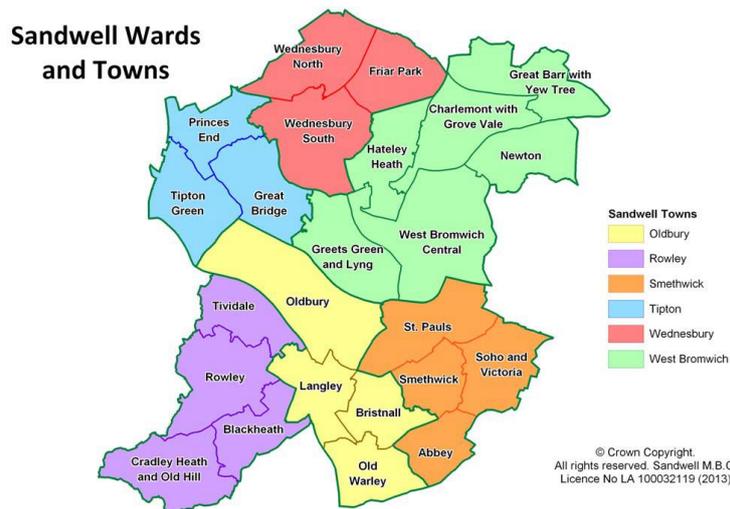
HEALTH VISITING

Student Specialist Community Public Health Nurse

(Health Visitor)

Booklet





Sandwell Trends:

https://www.sandwelltrends.info/wpcontent/uploads/sites/5/2018/06/Census_TP_2011_Sandwell.pdf

- Sandwell lies in the heart of the West Midlands, in an area of the UK known as “The Black County”. There are six main towns which make up Sandwell: Oldbury, Rowley Regis, Smethwick, Tipton, Wednesbury and West Bromwich.
- A range of services are offered including community nursing, health visiting, physiotherapy and speech and language therapy amongst others. Locally residents have access to doctor’s surgeries, pharmacies, dental surgeries and opticians.
- The community facilities alongside SWH also has a responsibility to prevent people becoming ill in the first place and to improve health and wellbeing so they live longer and have better lives working together with many different organisations.

Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust

Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust (SWB) is an integrated care organisation dedicated to improving the lives of local people. It aims to maintain an outstanding reputation for teaching and education and to embed innovation and research.

The Trust employs over 7,000 people and spends around £430m of public money, largely drawn from the local Clinical Commissioning Group. That Group and the Trust is responsible for the care of 530,000 local people from across North-West Birmingham and all the towns within Sandwell.

In October 2015, Health Visiting transferred to the Local Authority and is commissioned by Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Hospitals Trust. Health Visiting is managed under the Paediatric Directorate and is rated outstanding by the CQC.



Health Visiting

Health Visiting practice involves planned activities aimed at improving physical, mental, emotional and the social health and wellbeing of the population, consisting of preventing disease and reducing inequalities in health.

Health Visiting's overall purpose is to improve health and social wellbeing through identifying health needs, raising awareness and, influencing the broader context that affects health and social wellbeing by enabling and empowering people to improve their own health.

The Health Visiting contribution to public health takes into account the differing dynamics and needs of individuals, families and groups, and the community as a whole. Health Visiting practice focus on 6 spheres, these are:

- Autonomous specialist community public health nursing practice
- Transforming specialist community public health nursing practice
- Promoting human rights and addressing health inequalities: assessment, surveillance and intervention
- Population health: enabling, supporting and improving health outcomes of people across the life course
- Advancing public health services and promoting healthy places, environments and cultures
- Leading and collaborating: from investment to action and dissemination

Health Visitors work to the “Universal in reach – Personalised in response” delivery model (2021). This is included in the Health Visiting commissioning by Sandwell Local Authority. This can be found: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/commissioning-of-public-health-services-for-children/health-visiting-and-school-nursing-service-delivery-model>

Health Visitors manage their own caseload within a corporate team and will see families at home and also in clinic settings. They work collaboratively with partner agencies including Sandwell Children's Trust, GP's, local Family Hubs, nursery and education settings to deliver a range of support services to families across the borough.



SCPHN Course

This postgraduate diploma course leads to a Specialist Community Public Health Nursing qualification, which is registrable on part three of the NMC Register. It will be studied full-time over one year. There are core modules that are shared by all students and specialist modules for the Community Specialist Public health nursing/school nursing pathway.

The course is 50% theory and 50% practice and as well as being supported by an academic tutor, you will be allocated a qualified practice teacher that will support you in practice in order to meet the NMC Standards of Public Health Proficiencies.

The University programme is based at The University of Wolverhampton. The practical part of the course will be based across the Sandwell borough.

Aims of the Course

- To develop a specialist practitioner who combines theory and practice
- To develop knowledge and skills in health visiting.

At the end of the course the student will be:

- A Specialist Community Public Health nurse (Health Visitor) who will be a competent autonomous practitioner.
- Flexible and adaptable to meet the demands of the role
- Able to demonstrate intellectual skills to evaluate the economic, social and political influences that affect all aspects of health care.
- Academically and professionally prepared to practice as a member of a multi-disciplinary team.
- Able to innovate and be proactive in their specialist area of practice.

Entry Requirements

Students accessing the Health Visiting course must:

- Be a registered nurse or midwife. Registration as a nurse can be in any field of nursing (adult, child, learning disability and mental health)
- Have a first degree.
- Your Trust will ensure you complete an Enhanced DBS check as part of the recruitment process.



SCPHN Course

The course has a modular design comprised of modules which can change annually. The modules might include for example:

- Advanced Perspectives of Public Health
- Critical perspectives of Child Development
- Safeguarding Children
- Leadership; Management and Innovation
- Perspectives of Child Development Specialist Community Public Health Nursing Practice (Health Visiting)

Practice Component

This is a professional course and it incorporates a practice component. The practice placement occurs throughout the programme and culminates in a 10-week block at the end of the course. Practice normally occurs within the place of work.

During the first 2 semesters you will usually spend 2 days in your placement, 2 days at university and 1 day of self-directed study. There will also be blocks of full time placement at the end of the first 2 semesters. During placement there will be structured in house training and you will also be expected to complete specified e-learning modules.

If you are successful in your application you will be seconded by SWB trust to access the course.

Study leave and holidays are set in the university timetable and you will need to complete sufficient practice and academic hours to complete the course within the timescale.

The health of staff is more important than ever and at SWB we offer exclusive staff benefits some of which include:

- Onsite free Gym on both hospital sites
- Childcare Facilities
- Car Lease Scheme
- Savings with local supermarkets / National and local discounts
- Financial advice through Neyber
- Wellbeing Sanctuary



Challenges

The course is very challenging and organisational skills are all important.

There is a lot of work involved so you may need to ask yourself the following questions:

- Do you have good IT Skills, able to learn how to use software for record keeping?
- Are you able to manage your own workload?
- Do you work well within a team?
- Do you have the ability to manage conflict
- Do you have evidence of recent professional development?
- Is the time right for you to commit to undertaking a challenging course?

If you have answered yes to these questions then the Specialist Community Public Health Nursing Course may be for you.



SWB Health Visiting Facebook page



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