

Work Based Education Facilitator Network Update

WBEF Network

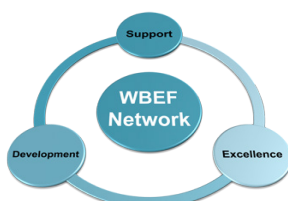
The Work Based Education Facilitator (WBEF) Network is a partnership development between the Workforce Transformation team and The Academy. The academy is part of the University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust (UHSM) and is a unique and innovative concept which brings together all of the education and training activities of the Trust under one umbrella. This has brought together individuals from a variety of professional background across Health, Social Care and Education providing an expert knowledge base and wealth of experience in the North West Region.

The role of the WBEF Network is primarily to contribute to the high quality provision of the learning experience for Trainee Assistant Practitioners (TAPs) both in the work place and in the academic environment. The focus of the Network is to facilitate competency based development, and in addition offer support to Health, Social Care and Private, voluntary and independent organisations with workforce development. Working across organisational boundaries and professional disciplines the WBEF network promotes multi-professional work based learning for NHS funded TAPs and shares good practice.

The Network employs a team of WBEFs who are located across a number of host organisations, with three sub-regional teams; Cumbria & Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Cheshire & Merseyside They can be contacted either by their individual emails listed below or via email WBEFnetwork@uhsm.nhs.uk

WBEF Managers

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University Hospital of South Manchester	WBEF Manager Carolyn Jackson 07792 291775 carolyn.jackson2@nhs.net
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**WBEF Team
Cumbria & Lancashire**

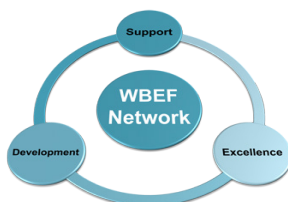
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Cheshire & Merseyside

Base	Contact
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The North West has developed over 3000 qualified Assistant Practitioners since September 2002 and there are currently a number of APs in training. Evidence from the evaluation of qualified Assistant Practitioners showed that the Assistant Practitioner role is now an established role across a range of services (for example theatres, ward areas, stroke services, community settings, social care, long term conditions, intermediate care, children's, learning disabilities, therapy, GP practices and mental health). Based on organisational requirement and service needs, the Assistant Practitioner often work across traditional role boundaries (including allied health professionals, social work, healthcare science, nursing, pharmacy and public health).

The Assistant Practitioner role is about providing direct or indirect care and/or treatment to a variety of service users across a wider range of service areas. Assistant Practitioners support the whole of the registered workforce and follow the patient pathway through the service and often deliver a range of nursing, therapy, social care and health promotion skills, this is in contrast to other health roles which may focus on a specific part of a patient's care or relate to one profession role.

