



**GRADUATE CERTIFICATE in Consolidation
of Social Work Practice
LEVEL 6 - 60 Credits
BMPF6044**

**LEARNER PORTFOLIO
(PORTH AGORED and UNIVERSITY OF WALES
TRINITY SAINT DAVID)**

Learner's name: Kathryn Alderman John

Email address: 2319092@student.uwtsd.ac.uk

Learner's University Registration Number: 23190

Cohort: 21 onwards

Reference List

Information about referencing in written assignments and how to avoid plagiarism can be found on Moodle. It is important that you are aware of the importance of ensuring that the work submitted is your original work.

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Detail of Workshops Attended

Please record in the table below the dates of each consolidation programme workshop you attended.

Consolidation workshop	Date Attended
1	10.10.23
2	23.01.24
3	19.03.24
4	04.07.24

Notes

Mentor's report

With reference to the 3 learning outcomes please comment fully on the learner's development over the duration of the whole programme. Reflect on information provided by the learner at the outset of the programme in Task 1 (Part a) and the later perspective given in Task 1 (Part b). Where you have seen or discussed feedback from individuals in need of care and support and/or their carers with whom the learner has worked, you are encouraged to comment on this with regard to the learner's development and their future development.

Apply analysis and assessment

An integral part of working within a CMHT in Wales is undertaking the mandatory training as well as training specialising in Mental Health. The learner identifies in Task 1a and 1b that she would like undertake training that develops her professional judgement and confidence in what is often an unpredictable and complex arena. She has completed training in many areas including data protection, WARRN training, Fire Safety, Health and Safety, and safeguarding.

Being knowledgeable in the areas in which she is working has helped strengthen her confidence and ability to speak up about a topic that she is aware of, she has kept up to date

with all mandatory training and will be required to maintain this as she progresses into her career as an Approved Mental Health Professional.

The Learner undertook WARRN training that is an intensive 2-day multi-disciplinary course that anticipates the practitioner to transfer assessment and formulation skills into the many varied scenarios, sometimes in a planned manner and at other times in unforeseen and unpredictable crisis situations. Which will all be beneficial in preparation of and during her AMHP training.

The WARRN assessment skills are transferrable to other assessment scenarios, such as a strengths-based approach because it prompts the assessor to consider strengths and protective factors within the context of an individual's social, cultural and environmental experiences. This training has enabled the learner to collaborate with the individuals she is working with to develop management plans and recovery-focused care planning.

The learner has demonstrated an ability make sound judgements in crisis situations, and this has been evidenced through supervision and ad hoc discussions in the office, moving forward this will support her to be able to build on her confidence. She has demonstrated that her confidence has grown over the last year as she doesn't feel the need to discuss decisions she makes with other colleagues and more so trusting of her professional Judgement.

Future development will entail ensuring the Learner has a protected caseload that will only enhance their learning while completing the AMHP course, and completing relevant training relating specifically to mental disorders, legislation and case law updates.

Working collaboratively with people, their carers and professionals

We work closely as a MDT and as social workers, work in a heavily health dominated area. The learner has worked closely with health colleagues of various disciplines over the past 12 months to uphold the social work values, and has been able to demonstrate her adherence to the Social Care Wales Code of Professional Practice.

The Learner's confidence has grown following this collaborative way of working and she is able to use her knowledge to support decision making within the wider MDT, by using evidence and theories to help support care planning, while sharing risks. During crisis situations, she has been able to seek support from the Crisis Intervention team for individuals to reduce the needs for in-patient care.

The learner shares information and challenges others' ideas in an appropriate and professional manor, she has gone on to have more complex working cases as her confidence has grown, with more social complex needs, working with the wider teams including Housing and Drug and Alcohol.

The learner continues to ensure she provides the Active Offer of Welsh when meeting with individuals and carrying out tasks, she is able to appreciate the importance of making this offer

and embrace what is important to the people she support, she will need to continue to do so in her future career.

For future learning, as the Learner is beginning to start the AMHP course she is going to experience working collaboratively with more professionals, the skills and confidence she has gained in the first year of practice is going to stand her in good stead for taking the step up to a more senior practitioner, where she will continue to develop.

Intervention and application of professional judgement in increasingly complex situations

The learner has increased her knowledge on the Mental Capacity Act, she has joint worked with health colleagues completing social work tasks, for example capacity assessments around finances. The learner has been able to assist colleagues in completing these assessments.

The Learner has also gone on to complete Court of Protection work, she has shown improvement in her written skills through the reports that she has been responsible for completing for the Court. Completing Mental Health Tribunal reports has given the learner a insight into working with individuals that are detained under the Act where she has needed to assess whether they meet this threshold to remain detained or be discharged. The Learner will go on to apply her professional judgement more in this area throughout her AMHP course.

The learner actively seeks out relevant training, including safeguarding, Eating disorder, data protection and personal safety, as well as reading about information that is shared with us online, she then shares this with the team during team meetings. This all further enhances sound professional judgement.

As the learner's experience progresses, her ability to safely manage complex situations and make professional judgements to enhance risk management and effective care planning will develop further. As her confidence develops, and she progresses through the AMHP course she will be responsible for care coordinating individuals who engage in behaviours that pose significant risk to themselves and others, such as those requiring input from forensic mental health services.

Mentor's conclusion:

The learner has developed professionally and personally during her first years of practice. Since qualifying she has worked through part of the Covid Pandemic, with changing local policies around safe working and infection control, while delivering high quality interventions within a changing team dynamic, as well as taking time out to have a baby. The learner has shown resilience and drive within her practice, also adopting a routine and remaining part of the tight knit MDT.

The learner has developed her confidence in practice by embracing her core social work values, knowledge and skills to assert professional identity within the CMHT, she has become

emotionally resilient, and her confidence has grown immensely now being comfortable to talk out in a MDT that is predominantly health led.

As she involves herself in more complex work, such as Mental Health Act assessments and decision making within the frameworks of the Mental Health Act and the Mental Capacity Act, she will further progress her transferrable skills when promoting social justice and social capital for the individuals we aim to help.

I can confirm that the learner has engaged openly and actively in monthly supervision sessions and is able to demonstrate professional competence through those sessions, and within my regular audits of case files and feedback from colleagues. The learner is an approachable, hardworking and valued member of the team.

Note for Mentor – Please ensure that you provide a signature of verification of this report in the section titled 'Signatures and Line Manager Verification'

Learner Details

Learner details, Signatures and Line manager verification.

It is the learner's responsibility to ensure that their university learner number is correctly inserted wherever requested within the portfolio.

Learner Details

(NB it is essential that you inform your Workforce Development/Training Unit **and** the University of Wales Trinity Saint David if your name or your address for correspondence changes).

1. Name of Learner: Kathryn Alderman John

2. Learner's University Number:

Address for Correspondence: 2319092

17 Clarence Street Pembroke Dock Pembrokeshire SA726JP

Telephone Number: 07772657130

E-mail address: Kathryn.alderman-john@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Date of Professional Qualification: 30.11.2021

Date of registration with Social Care Wales: 16.12.2021

3. Name of Learner's Agency

Agency Contact details:

Name: Pembrokeshire County Council

Address: County Hall, Freeman's way, Haverfordwest SA61 1TP

Telephone Number: 01437 776086

E-Mail address: ann-louise.easton@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

4. The evidence I have provided within this portfolio is in:

Welsh only ☐

Welsh and English ☐

English only ☒

Mentor's details

5. Mentor's details

Name: Kim Parry

Address: CMHT, Bro Cerwyn, Fishguard Road, Haverfordwest, SA61 2PG

Telephone Number: 01437 772818

E-Mail address: Kim.Parry@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

6. Observer details

Name: Claudette Pouton

Work Address: CMHT, Bro Cerwyn, Fishguard Road, Haverfordwest, SA61 2PG

Professional Qualification and date of qualification: 2016

Telephone number: 01437 772818

Email address: Claudette.pouton@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Signatures and Line Manager Verification

CONFIDENTIALITY and PLAGIARISM – to be completed by the learner.

All information provided in this portfolio complies with guidance on confidentiality. I confirm that all work apart from comments by others (e.g. mentor, individuals in need of care and support and/or their carers) is all my original work and has not been copied. I understand that plagiarism is taken very seriously by the University and the programme.

Signed: ___ Kathryn Alderman John _____ (Learner)

Date: ___ 20/10/2023 _____

Feedback and comments from an individual using services, their family and/or carers (Task 2) - to be completed by the Observer.

I confirm that I am a registered social worker with knowledge of the learner's area of practice and that the observation summary and the comments above from the individual in need of care and support and/or their carers are about the same piece of practice that I observed on the date given.

Signed: Claudette Pouton - _____ (Observer)

Date: 18/09/2024

Mentors Report (to be completed by the mentor)

I can confirm that I am a registered social worker and that in my role as mentor I have provided a written report of the learner's progress over the duration of the programme.

Signed: *KParry* (Mentor)

Date: 25/09/2024

Line manager verification.

Guidance: This section must be completed and signed by the learner's line manager and/or senior practitioner. Where the line manager is not a registered social worker, verification must also be provided by a social work practitioner in a senior position (this could be the mentor) who is familiar with the learner's work and can verify that the learner has been involved with the safeguarding case evidenced in Task 3 of the portfolio and that the learner has met all the required criteria listed below.

In this section, please confirm that you have seen sufficient evidence of the learner's work during the period they have been undertaking the Consolidation programme. If necessary, please consult with other managers who the learner has worked with. In signing this section, you are confirming that you are content with the:

- level of supervision and mentoring support received by the learner;
- learning and development undertaken;
- reading and personal research undertaken;
- level of knowledge and skills demonstrated;
- understanding shown of the Code of Professional Practice and National Occupational Standards;
- core values of the learner;
- work and commentary referred to within the portfolio, that it is the learner's own work and based on current practice;
- completion of accurate, cogent, coherent and analytical recording skills;

- Line manager to verify the learner has been involved with safeguarding.
- Mentor's report, and that it provides evidence of observations of Professional Practice that has been undertaken over the duration of the Graduate Certificate in the Consolidation of Social Work practice pathway (work-based practice which is equivalent to 7,000 words).

I confirm that this learner has achieved an appropriate level of professional practice.

LINE MANAGER VERIFICATION:

NAME OF LINE MANAGER: KIM PARRY

SIGNATURE OF LINE MANAGER: *K Parry*

DATE: 25/09/2024

REGISTERED SOCIAL WORKER'S VERIFICATION (WHERE THE LINE MANAGER IS NOT A REGISTERED SOCIAL WORKER, THIS CAN BE THE MENTOR).

NAME OF SOCIAL WORKER: _____

SIGNATURE OF SOCIAL WORKER: _____

POSITION: _____

DATE: _____

Learning Agreement

PORTH AGORED AND UNIVERSITY OF WALES TRINITY SAINT DAVID

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CONSOLIDATION OF SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

LEARNER AND EMPLOYER'S LEARNING AGREEMENT

Name of Learner	Kathryn Alderman John
Name of Team/Agency	Pembrokeshire CMHT
Name of Mentor	Kim Parry
Name of Line Manager	Kim Parry

Study Duty

The learner will undertake all elements of the Graduate Certificate programme diligently, including mandatory attendance at induction, four Consolidation Workshops, and participation in an evaluation survey or focus group on completion of the programme.

The learner's full and effective participation on the Graduate Certificate is mandatory given that Social Care Wales has made completion of the programme a requirement within the first (three-year) period of registration as a Social Worker. This applies to social workers who qualified after April 2016.

Study Leave

The employer undertakes to support the learner by providing time within their normal contract of employment to attend all agreed mandatory elements of the programme which include; induction day and four Consolidation Workshops. Additional time may be provided for programme evaluation meetings and any training agreed as a requirement of the programme.

Three further study days will be provided by the employer as a contribution towards the time involved in personal research and developing the portfolio for submission. The study days can be taken on any week-day (or combination of days) as long this is (i) appropriate to the stage of portfolio preparation at the time, and (ii) agreed with the Team Manager who will take into account team and service needs. Where the learner works less than 37 hours a week, mandatory days and study leave will be approved in accordance with the employer's local policies.

Resources

Learners are able to access learning and library materials from their employer's existing resources or as described in the Programme Handbook, from the University. The employer understands that the Graduate Certificate is to be completed by newly qualified Social Workers in their first period of registration and will support this timescale. There is also an expectation that as it is a professional development programme, learners will take responsibility for their own learning and will also use their own time for personal study and portfolio preparation.

The employer's training department agrees to:

- arrange for eligible staff to join the programme;
- pay course fees directly to the University;
- pay Porth Agored partnership fees for each learner;
- provide additional guidance and support by:
 - a) facilitating access to existing learning materials or library resources;
 - b) providing appropriate training opportunities from existing internal training programmes as agreed with the learner and mentor;
 - c) providing programme induction and Consolidation Workshops;
 - d) providing learners with guidance and support about programme requirements and portfolio completion;
 - e) helping to resolve any programme difficulties encountered by the learner, mentor or service managers.

The learner agrees to:

- work actively towards completing the qualification within the agreed timescale of 12 months from the date of registration on the programme;
- identify with manager/mentor appropriate internal training and arrange to attend these courses;
- identify with manager/mentor and Training Coordinator/Manager any special requirements e.g. dyslexia and contact the University's Student Services office directly about additional support that may be required;
- attend induction and four Consolidation Workshops. These are mandatory components of the programme;
- produce work and evidence appropriate to the portfolio and learning outcomes within agreed timescales;
- make and keep agreed appointments with mentor/line manager;
- ensure they are prepared adequately and obtain all necessary consent for observed practice;
- inform mentor/line manager and training department immediately of any problems or changes in circumstances while undertaking the programme, especially where this may affect completion of the programme by the agreed deadline or ability to attend a mandatory workshop;

- liaise with their line manager/mentor to confirm study days and use their own time in addition for self-directed study, research and portfolio preparation;
- take personal responsibility for preparing and completing all work necessary to submit their portfolio;
- act at all times in accordance with the Code of Professional Practice and the employer's and University's policies, procedures and processes;
- ensure that they understand the need to complete the programme within the first (three year) period of registration with Social Care Wales. (Qualifying after April 2016).

Line Manager/Mentor agrees to:

Line-manager/mentor can be one in the same person or the role can be undertaken by two separate people. The mentor must be a registered SW with a minimum of 3 years post qualifying experience.

- attend an induction meeting to become familiar with the requirements of the programme;
- provide or arrange to provide sufficient assessment opportunities in order for the learner to evidence competency and undertake required observations. Where opportunities may not be immediately available within the team arrange to provide these elsewhere within the Service;
- guide and support the learner for the duration of the programme;
- release the learner for the programme induction and the four Consolidation Workshops, and any internal training courses agreed as being appropriate to meet agreed learning needs;
- agree with the learner, use of up to 3 additional study days over the whole duration of the programme, as an employer contribution towards time needed for personal study, research or portfolio development;
- ensure that regular formal supervision is provided to the learner by their line manager in line with organisational policy (line-manager);
- ensure that mentoring sessions are provided in line with Social Care Wales First 3 Three Years in Practice guidelines. Mentoring sessions, where possible, should be arranged as a separate event from supervision. A full record of when mentoring sessions are undertaken must be kept.

Completion and submission of portfolio

Learners are expected to complete the Graduate Certificate and will normally submit their portfolio within 12 months of attending induction to the programme. Any learner anticipating any difficulty in meeting this requirement should immediately discuss the matter with their Training Manager/Co-ordinator. It is the learner's responsibility to inform the university if they are not going to meet the submission deadlines.

The portfolio submission process and dates for each programme cohort will be published on Moodle. Once registered on a programme, **learners CANNOT change the due submission date without gaining agreement from the employer and University.**

Pressure of work is not regarded as a reason for non-attendance at any Consolidation Workshop.

I understand and accept the terms and conditions of this learning agreement as stated above.

Signed:..... Print Name: Kathryn Alderman John Date:...25.09.24.....
(Learner)

Signed:..... Print Name: Kim Parry Date:25/09/2024
(Line Manager/Mentor)

Signed:..... Print Name:.....Date:.....
(Mentor, if different to above)

PLEASE PLACE THE SIGNED COPY OF THIS LEARNING AGREEMENT IN THE PORTFOLIO.