

Health Professions Council

Visitors' report

Name of education provider	Anglia Ruskin University
Name and titles of programme(s)	BSc (Hons) Applied Biomedical Science
Mode of Delivery (FT/PT)	Full and part time
Date of Visit	8 & 9 May 2007
Proposed date of approval to commence	September 2007
Name of HPC visitors attending (including member type and professional area)	William Gilmore, Biomedical Science David Houlston, Biomedical Science
HPC Executive officer(s) (in attendance)	Chris Hipkins Andrea Kanaris (Observer)
Joint panel members in attendance (name and delegation):	Lesley Dobree, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Chair) Maureen Parsons, Internal Panel Member Chris Menzies, Internal Panel Member Ellen Langford, Quality Assurance Nikki Dibb, Quality Assurance

Scope of visit (please tick)

New programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major change to existing programme	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visit initiated through Annual Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>

Confirmation of meetings held

	Yes	No	N/A
Senior personnel of provider with responsibility for resources for the programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programme team	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Placements providers and educators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students (current or past as appropriate)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Confirmation of facilities inspected

	Yes	No	N/A
Library learning centre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IT facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specialist teaching accommodation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Confirmation that particular requirements/specific instructions (if any) of the Education and Training Committee that have been explored e.g. specific aspects arising from annual monitoring reports.

Requirement (please insert detail)	Yes	No	N/A
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed student cohort intake number please state	20
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PROGRAMMES APPROVED: ALL CONDITIONS MET

The following summarises the key outcomes of the Approvals event and provides reasons for the decision.

CONDITIONS

SET 3. Programme management and resource standards

3.4 There must be an adequate number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff in place to deliver an effective programme.

3.5 Subject areas must be taught by staff with relevant specialist expertise and knowledge.

Condition: The University must provide evidence that the additional 1.5 FTE staff that have been indicated are employed before the programme commences.

Reason: The University have indicated that 1.5 additional FTE staff will be employed only if the programme is approved. Without these additional staff it is the view of the HPC Visitors that the programme does not have sufficient staff and sufficient expertise across the range of subjects to be covered.

SET 4. Curriculum Standards

4.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards of proficiency for their part of the Register.

Condition: The University must revise and resubmit the module descriptors for all of the Level 3 modules in the programme to better reflect the level of learning outcomes appropriate for an honours programme.

Reason: The learning outcomes currently specified in the module descriptors will not ensure that a student will meet the Standards of Proficiency for Biomedical Scientists upon completion of the programme.

4.2 The programme must reflect the philosophy, values, skills and knowledge base as articulated in the curriculum guidance for the profession.

4.3 Integration of theory and practice must be central to the curriculum to enable safe and effective practice.

Condition: The University must revise and resubmit modules where appropriate to reflect the inclusion of biomedical science specialisms earlier in the programme.

Reason: The current documentation provides little evidence of where the specialisms are covered and there is concern that some are not covered in sufficient detail to adequately prepare students for placement.

4.7 Where there is inter-professional learning the profession specific skills and knowledge of each professional group are adequately addressed.

Condition: The University must engage with the Employers Liaison Group to ensure a consistent approach to inter-professional learning.

Reason: The Programme Team indicated they did not think that inter-professional learning was appropriate for this programme, however the employers indicated that it was appropriate and that it was taking place. Employers believed that it is important for BMS students to engage with other professional groups.

SET 5. Practice placements standards

5.2 There must be an adequate number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff at the placement.

5.6 The education provider must maintain a thorough and effective system for approving and monitoring all placements.

Condition: The University must put in place a comprehensive and formally documented system for approving and monitoring practice placements. This system should include a detailed criteria for placement approval, with particular reference to the number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff, and the monitoring of the laboratory's CPA accreditation (Clinical Pathology Accreditation).

Reason: The University indicated that practice placements would be visited however there is no formal system in place and no clearly defined criteria for placement approvals.

5.8.1 Unless other arrangements are agreed, practice placement educators must have relevant qualification and experience

5.8.1 Unless other arrangements are agreed, practice placement educators must be appropriately registered

Condition: The University must agree a standard job description with the practice placement providers for the practice placement Training Officers.

Reason: A formally documented job description needs to be agreed to ensure that expectations are clearly defined and understood between the employers and the University.

5.8.3 Unless other arrangements are agreed, practice placement educators must undertake appropriate practice placement educator training.

Condition: The University must put in place a formal process for providing appropriate training to practice placement educators.

Reason: The University does not currently have a system in place to ensure that practice placement educators receive appropriate training.

Deadline for conditions to be met:	9 July 2007
Expected date visitors' report submitted to Panel for approval:	5 July 2007
Expected date programme submitted to Panel for approval:	2 August 2007

