

# The Admiral Nurse Accelerator Learning Programme

## Frequently asked questions for nurses

### **Do I have to attend the sessions when you say, or can I access them when it suits me best?**



You will be spending 50% of your week participating in the programme. This will be all day Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and Thursday mornings. There are some set sessions

that you will need to attend via Microsoft Teams, Zoom or Blackboard Collaborate. These are sessions where you will meet with other nurses on the programme, your nominated Service Development Consultant Admiral Nurse, and the Programme Lead. Much of the programme content is accessed via the Dementia UK Blackboard Learning platform and is independent learning.

### **How much flexibility is built into the programme?**

All the modules on the programme are designed to enable you to complete them within the given time frame (four weeks for each module). Time is built into the modules to enable you to take leave throughout the programme. If you need to take an extended period of leave, this will be discussed with your employer and Dementia UK. Together we will agree on a study plan to enable you to complete the programme. This might mean you could be studying on the programme beyond the six-month period.

### **Where do I access my mandatory training and what if this clashes with a session on the programme?**

You will access all your mandatory training with your employer. This training will be completed during

time with your employer which will be Thursday afternoons, Fridays and Mondays. If there is a clash, you will be able to attend your mandatory training and attend study on the Accelerator Programme on an alternative day. This should be discussed and agreed with the Programme Lead at Dementia UK prior to the event.

### **What do I do if due to work commitments I am not able to attend a live session?**

Your employer will be committed to ensuring you will be able to attend the programme. They will have already agreed to ensure you will be supported to attend the programme 50% of the week. All live sessions are held on days of the week that you are expected to be on the programme. We will not put any live sessions on when you are expected to be in practice. However, in the rare event that you need to be in practice on a specific date, we will support you to gain access to any learning materials and recordings that will enable you to keep up to date with the programme. →



## **What if I do not complete my portfolio on time?**

You will be given time within the programme to complete your portfolio. You will also have the opportunity to meet with your nominated Service Development Consultant Admiral Nurse and Professional and the Programme Lead where you will be able to discuss your progress. If needed, Dementia UK will endeavour to support you to complete the portfolio before the end of the programme. This is essential for completion of the programme.

## **Will my portfolio be marked /graded?**

No, your portfolio is not marked or graded. Your portfolio is a document that enables you to record your learning and reflections. At the end of modules two, four and six you will meet with your nominated Service Development Consultant Admiral Nurse and the Programme Lead. Together you will review your progress through the modules and portfolio, and identify any specific learning requirements you may feel you have. If required, a support/action plan will then be developed to enhance your learning and progression through the programme.

## **Do I have to be an advanced specialist in all aspects of the Admiral Nurse Competency Framework at the end of the programme?**

No. The programme will support you to start working on the development of skills associated with the Admiral Nurse Competency Framework. You may feel as you progress through the course that you become skilled in specific specialist areas, or that you are working at a specialist level in particular competencies within the framework, but it is not an expectation to become an advanced specialist in all aspects.

## **What are my opportunities for career progression once I have completed the programme?**

At the end of the programme, you will have developed specialist Admiral Nurse skills, focusing on the role of the Admiral Nurse and the leadership skills to design and develop a new Admiral Nursing service. This is a unique set of skills that will enable you to progress through to other specialist roles should you wish to.

## **Do I get a certificate of completion at the end of the programme?**

Yes, this is built into your portfolio and will be added to it on completion of the programme.

## **What if I complete one module quickly – can I move on to the next?**

You will study the programme on a weekly basis. You will be expected to study each module for four weeks. There may be material within the modules that you are familiar with already. If you feel that you have completed the study quickly there is an opportunity for you to do more advanced study focusing on your specialist area. This will enable you to develop your knowledge and skills further and enhance your portfolio reflections.

## **What if I am behind on completing a module?**

If you get behind with your study, you will have an opportunity to meet with both your dedicated Service Development Consultant Admiral Nurse and the Programme Lead. They will help you to develop a supported learning plan that will enable you to progress through the programme.

## **Who will help and support me through this programme?**

You will have support from the Programme Lead throughout the whole programme. They will help you develop learning plans and navigate the programme, supporting you to progress through the modules. You will also be supported by the Programme Co-ordinator who will help you to access online learning modules and build your portfolio. As well as this, you will have regular meetings with your dedicated Service Development Consultant Admiral Nurse to support you in setting up your new Admiral Nurse service. During this time, you will agree action plans to assist you in the development of your service.

## **Who is my employer?**

Your employer is the organisation you applied for the programme with. Whilst you will continue to be employed by this organisation, Dementia UK will support you through the programme.

## **Who will keep my employer updated about my progress through the programme?**

Your employer can contact the Programme Lead at [accelerator@dementiauk.org](mailto:accelerator@dementiauk.org) for any updates, or with any questions or queries. However, it is good practice for you to regularly update your employer on your progress through the programme. You will have regular meetings with your nominated Service Development Consultant Admiral Nurse and the Programme Lead which will focus on your progress.

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**For more information, please contact [accelerator@dementiauk.org](mailto:accelerator@dementiauk.org)**