

## **Occupational Therapy Practice Education**

**Protocol:** Unexpected or adverse events that occur during a student's clinical placement such as severe weather warnings or inaccessible placement sites

*(Note: This protocol is distinct from the sickness/absence while on placement protocol)*

- In the first instance, students are expected to monitor their UCC emails and the announcements section of the practice education module on Canvas.
- Students are to prioritise their safety and well-being. Students are only to travel to placement when it is safe to do so (e.g. dangerous travel conditions as a result of a weather warning).
- Students should contact their practice educator by phone, as well as their practice tutor and practice education coordinator via email, if they will be late or unable to attend placement because of an unforeseen circumstance.
- Should the practice educator not be available, the student should make contact with another occupational therapist from the department, the occupational therapy manager or a relevant member of the clinical team.
- If the student can justify and provide evidence of work that is relevant to their placement, completed off site, then these hours can contribute towards their placement hours. Students should discuss this with their practice educator and practice tutor.
- If an adverse event causes a student to miss hours on a given day or week, and it was not possible to complete work off site; they should try to make up those hours at other times during the placement, if appropriate for the practice educator and placement site.
  - Participate in clinical opportunities on the weekends or in the evenings as appropriate to the practice educator and the placement site

- Start early and finish late as appropriate to the practice educator and placement site
  - Demonstrate self-directed learning that is directly related to clinical work.
- A student can work to a maximum of 37.5 hours in one working week.
- Students need to attend a minimum of 80% of each of their placements in order to pass each module.
- Students need to achieve 1000 hours of clinical placement in order to graduate from the programme.