



## New centre to train health professionals

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24 April 2007, The University of Sheffield's School of Nursing and Midwifery is opening a new centre this week, to help it deliver more postgraduate and continuing professional development (CPD) programmes, and support its existing research activities.

The Centre for Health & Social Care Studies and Service Development will be officially launched on Wednesday 25 April 2007 and will be based in Samuel Fox House, which was purpose built for the School of Nursing and Midwifery at the Northern General Hospital 10 years ago. The main aim of the Centre is to impact positively on patient care by providing health and social care practitioners with high quality, research based education.

A range of research degrees, masters programmes, study days and individual modules in a wide variety of health and social care subjects, such as care of older people in their own homes, cancer care and intensive care, will be offered at the new Centre. It will also provide its researchers with the facilities to investigate the School's key research topics: children, young people and families; workforce and practice development; and older people.

The Centre will benefit from longstanding relationships with public and independent health and social care providers and charitable organisations in the region, and strong education and research links with other Universities and departments within the University of Sheffield. These links will mean the Centre will be well-positioned to support work force development in the NHS and private/voluntary sectors, and is committed to assisting practitioners along the whole lifelong learning continuum to become informed, confident, critical thinkers, and to be the leaders and innovators of the future.

As well as being the focus for nursing research and postgraduate and CPD programmes, the Centre also offers accreditation, event management and consultancy services in the areas of health and social care.

Anne Peat, Dean of the School of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Sheffield, said: "The launch of the Centre for Health and Social Care Studies and Service Development is a significant milestone in the life of the School of Nursing and Midwifery. It gives us the opportunity to broaden our portfolio of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes alongside our research interests, and create innovative lifelong learning opportunities.

"Through various partnerships we will develop opportunities for professionals to work and learn together crossing traditional boundaries. This is particularly important at a time when the delivery of health and social care is undergoing major change. We need to be at the forefront of developments and through the Centre we will produce professionals who can work in new ways and in new roles."

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