**Year 3 SSC**

**Student Placement: Warmley Park School**

**July 2014**

**Aims:**

This four-week placement at the end of the third year provides studentswith the following opportunities:

1. To gain in-depth knowledge about the holistic experience of children and families living with profound and multiple learning difficulties
2. To develop observation skills, patience, and a sensitivity to non-verbal communication.
3. To reflect upon the notion of well-being and health within multiple and profound disabilities.
4. To experience teamwork across the complex inter-relationships between the child, parents/carers, peers, medical and social support networks, teaching and support staff.
5. To develop interviewing skills, reflection and evaluation to support a qualitative case-study of a particular child.
6. To explore creativity for well-being with the children at Warmley Park School.

**Clinical aspects:**

This SSC is a clinical placement and every opportunity will be taken to support the student’s acquisition of clinical and work-based knowledge. The deputy-head teacher Lisa Parker will ensure that students liaise with key-staff familiar with the children’s medical conditions as well as visiting health-care professionals. However students will be expected to conduct their own independent research into clinical conditions they encounter.

**Socio/educational aspects**

The positive role of creativity is reflected strongly in the curriculum and in 2010 an artist in residence placement was initiated to provide opportunities for the children to engage in arts practice. We hope the art-room may be made available for students to run informal workshops with small groups of students if appropriate and one of the SSC leads (Catherine) will be available in an advisory capacity if required.

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**Structure:**

There will be three group meetings as follows:

We will initially meet as a group of 5 students at the University of Bristol with Dr Hannah Condry, UoB 3D lead and GP; Dr Catherine Lamont-Robinson, artist/researcher, and honorary lecturers in Social and Community Medicine. We will then explore aspects of working alongside children with physical and cognitive impairments from each of our perspectives, clinical/academic lead, artist/researcher and student.

The students will next meet as a group at Warmley Park School where they will be introduced to their key-staff, the children in their assigned class, be shown around the school and at the end of the first day of the placement have a debrief meeting with Lisa and Catherine. Students will be provided with an information pack from Warmley Park School with background material to support both clinical and educational aspects. In the latter half of this meeting we will consider observation and reflective skills alongside a creative workshop to support the students in their setting.

Towards the end of the placement the students will gather for a final group meeting to evaluate their individual experiences through short verbal presentations and discuss individual assignment paths with Catherine and Hannah.

Apart from three group meetings at UoB and Warmley Park with Hannah and Catherine, students will be supported by key staff at Warmley Park, Catherine has also timetabled supervisor visits to the school. Email support from Catherine and Hannah will also be offered.

Students are required to produce a rigorously researched case-study based assignment by the end of July. We have provided a selection of articles and a recommended reading list. Lisa Parker has suggested Marion Donaldson’s ‘Children’s Minds’, key staff may also have references to suggest.

Catherine and Hannah.

**How to apply**

If you are interested in selecting this placement, please send a short explanation (150 words approx.) as to why you consider this SSC to be an appropriate choice, to the Primary Care Teaching Office.

As there are only 5 places, the organisers operate on a suitability, then first-come first-served basis.