

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	Approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
Credit Structure ²	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing
Named Exit Awards	BSc Health Studies DipHE Health Studies CertHE Health Studies
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical offer: 112 UCAS Tariff points – equivalent to: BBC (A – Level), DMM (BTEC), Access 30 credits at Merit or above, three GCSES grades 4 and above, including Mathematics and English (or equivalent). For all candidates: Satisfactory Occupational Health clearance Satisfactory Enhanced DBS check
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	B730

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) in Children's Nursing. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2027-28 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

The BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing programme is offered within the School of Health, Science and Society. We hope that you enjoy your time studying with us and can make the best use of the opportunities provided, both within your course and the university. The BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing course has been designed to meet the requirements of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) and Standards for Pre-registration Nursing Education (2018), enabling you to apply for professional registration as a Children's Nurse on successful

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

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completion of your degree. Our aim is simple; to support you in the process of becoming a registered nurse.

The pre-registration courses are delivered in partnership with our National Health Service Trust colleagues and several other health, social welfare and educational organisations across the East of England. Every learning opportunity you have results from that partnership. This means that your experiences will be exactly what you need to achieve your ambitions.

This course will enable you to develop the knowledge, attitude and skills essential to register as a Children's Nurse. Nursing is a continually evolving profession, so a key part of this course is about developing the skills to adapt to new situations and to become a resilient practitioner. The course is divided into theoretical (50%) and practice components (50%). The practice learning and assessments take place in a range of clinical placements.

The design of the course has been, and will continue to be, determined through the close, collaborative working relationship between the University of Suffolk, Service Partners and Service Users. The purpose of the programme is to support your development to meet the requirements for registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) as a Children's Nurse. You will express appropriate values, possess the required knowledge and be able to demonstrate the necessary skills when called upon to do so. In addition, you will see learning as a lifelong requirement and be willing to take responsibility for professional leadership and management, not only in clinical practice, but also in whatever forum provides the opportunity.

The curriculum has been designed to be able to respond to changing needs, developments, priorities and expectations in health, healthcare practice and education. It will ensure you appreciate the expectation that you will provide the highest quality care, whatever the environment, whilst acknowledging the opportunities and challenges presented by change. This curriculum will ensure you develop the skills and motivation required to assume the leadership function of the newly qualified nurse.

Course Aims

1. To provide high-quality, safe, and effective care—encompassing physical and mental health to children, young people, adults, and their families, tailored to individual needs and underpinned by evidence-based practice and professional standards.
2. To demonstrate integrity, empathy, and resilience by upholding the professional, ethical, and legal responsibilities of nursing, and acting as advocates for patients and service users—including those with complex mental health needs—across diverse and changing societies.
3. To promote health, wellbeing, and recovery—both physical and mental—by working creatively and collaboratively with service users, families, and multi-agency teams, recognising the cultural, social, and economic factors that influence care.
4. To foster leadership, critical thinking, and reflective practice, empowering nurses to challenge systems, drive continuous improvement, and act as role models in modern healthcare environments, including mental health services.
5. To inspire professional curiosity, courage, and lifelong learning, equipping nurses to adapt, innovate, and advocate for themselves and others—across all fields of nursing—while striving for excellence in academic, clinical, and mental health practice.

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Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 4/5/6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁵.

1. Critically appraise the integration of theoretical knowledge with clinical practice, evaluating the application of best-available evidence to inform safe, effective, and person-centred care .
2. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge and clinical proficiency in managing acute and long-term conditions affecting children and young people, underpinned by evidence-based practice
3. Apply advanced communication strategies across diverse modalities to engage effectively with children, young people, and families, ensuring information is tailored to individual needs and preferences
4. Exhibit a broad range of nursing interventions appropriate to children and young people across varied care settings, demonstrating holistic, person-centred, and transformative practice
5. Critically evaluate the role of leadership and management within children's nursing, demonstrating the ability to lead care, influence practice, and contribute to service improvement
6. Collaborate effectively with children, young people, and their families or carers, promoting shared decision-making and delivering personalised, culturally sensitive care
7. Upon registration, demonstrate the ability to support learners and colleagues in practice, recognising professional boundaries and working within scope of practice
8. Upon registration, consistently role model professional values including openness, honesty, compassion, and integrity, in alignment with the expectations of a registered children's nurse
9. Independently assess, plan, implement, and evaluate care for children and young people, demonstrating autonomy and accountability in clinical decision-making
10. Engage in diverse clinical experiences throughout training to evidence competence in caring for children and young people from birth to adolescence, across a range of health and care settings

Course Design

Course Design The design of the course has been, and will continue to be, determined through the close, collaborative working relationship between the University of Suffolk, Service Partners and Service Users. The purpose of the programme is to support the development of the student in order to meet the requirements for registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) as a Children's Nurse.

This course will provide the knowledge, attitude and skills essential to register as a Children's Nurse. Nursing is a continually evolving profession, so a key part of this course is about

⁵ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

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developing the skills to adapt to new situations and ensure the student becomes a resilient practitioner. The course is divided into theoretical (50%) and practice components (50%). The practice learning and assessments takes place in a range of clinical placements.

The curriculum has been designed to be able to respond to changing needs, developments, priorities and expectations in health, healthcare practice and education. It will ensure the student can appreciate the expectation that they will provide the highest quality care in whatever environment acknowledging the opportunities and challenges presented by change. Nursing has not always appreciated the leadership function of the newly qualified nurse. This curriculum will ensure students develop the skills and motivation required to assume this responsibility. The design of this course has been guided by the following Professional Standards:

- NMC Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education 2018a
- NMC Standards for student supervision and assessment 2018b
- NMC Standards for pre-registration nursing programmes 2018c
- NMC Future nurse: Standards of proficiency for registered nurses 2018d

Course Structure

The BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁶
Level 4			
	Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice	30	M
	Anatomy, Physiology and essential nursing practice	30	M
	Principles of health promotion	30	M
	Nursing Practice 1	30	M
Level 5			
	Holistic care of children and young people with long term conditions and complex care needs	30	M
	Pathophysiology and Acute Illness within Childhood & Adolescence	30	M
	Early interventions and positive wellbeing of children & adolescents with mental health conditions	30	M
	Nursing Practice Year 2	30	M
Level 6			
	Nursing assessment and management of complex and deteriorating patients	30	M
	Leading, Co-ordinating Care and Preparation for Practice	30	M
	Dissertation/Major Project	30	M

⁶ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

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	Nursing Practice Part 3	30	M
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Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a BSc Health Studies on successful completion of 300 credits, including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5 and at least 60 credits at level 6, a DipHE Health Studies on successful completion of 240 credits at levels 4 and 5, or a CertHE Health Studies on successful completion of 120 credits at level 4.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at The University Ipswich Campus. Students studying full-time on BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing are likely to have approximately 340 direct contact hours and 485 self-directed hours for level 4, 270 contact hours and 518 self-directed hours for level 5 and 191 contact hours and 521 self-directed hours for level 6. The direct contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars, simulated skills sessions and self-directed hours include guided learning using the online learning platform Brightspace. In addition, tutorials and guided group discussions will form part of the self-directed hours. Students will also be required to participate in clinical placements involving 37.5 hours per week of allocated clinical time. Placements will be arranged by the University. Students will normally be expected to undertake 486 hours of independent study at level 4, 518 hours of independent study at level 5 and 521 hours of independent study at level 6 but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

Course Assessment A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will comprise of summative and formative coursework including essays, reports, presentations, group work and a dissertation; summative and formative examinations and ongoing assessments of clinical practice.

Special Features

The BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing course is approved by the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC). In achieving this award, students have completed the NMC required number of practice hours and will be eligible for first level entry to the NMC professional register.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute and are registered with the NMC.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BSc (Hons) Children's Nursing will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

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Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£10,050 per year
Part-time UK/EU	Not applicable
Full-time International	£19,000 per year
Part-time International	Not applicable

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students will be required to pay for their DBS check and a small ID check and processing fee; additional fees may be incurred upon a student returning from a period of intercalation. The cost of DBS checks can be found on the DBS page of the [Disclosure and Barring Service checks \(DBS\) | University of Suffolk](#)

Students may be eligible to claim for travel and car parking costs whilst on placement; however, these are paid retrospectively. More information can be found via the NHS Learning Support Fund webpage: <https://media.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/campaigns/nhs-learning-support-fund-hei-toolkit>

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).