Whilst on Clinical placement you have a number of mechanisms available should you require some advice or support, these include:

- Working alongside qualified practitioners who are recognised Associate Mentors / mentors.
- Further support can also gained via contacting The Clinical Placement Coordinator,
- Visiting lecturer/Personal Tutor,
- SHU Placement Coordinator
- or even by contacting a member of the ODP team at SHU

**MENTORS**

These are qualified registered practitioners who have undertook a level 6 mentorship qualification and have or are working towards a degree related to practice. The mentor is responsible for the day to day management of the student experience and will facilitate learning around the clinical competencies related to their clinical environment.

Mentors should be named and identified to the student prior to the commencement of a placement and it is this person who should help create a learning agreement that satisfies the students learning needs. It is important that regular reviews are undertaken, to identify both success and failure, and to alter plans accordingly dependant on circumstantial changes. Mentors must ensure that the student under their supervision is with them for a minimum of 40% of the time they are in placement. The mentor is responsible for all summative assessment and must ensure that the student adheres to Trust and SHU policy and regulations.

**ASSOCIATE MENTORS**

These are qualified registered practitioners within the clinical environment that have been identified by their Clinical Placement Coordinator as a potential mentor and have attended a mentor update session within the workplace. They must have been qualified for a minimum of 6 months.

Associate mentors are there to provide support and feedback to their student and also to assist the named Mentor with the student’s clinical supervision. It is important that Associate Mentors partake in a dual mentorship approach with the Mentor. Associate Mentors can sign Competencies, but all signatures must be countersigned either by the Mentor or the Clinical Placement Coordinator.
CLINICAL PLACEMENT COORDINATOR (CPC)

‘This person(s) has overall responsibility for students in clinical placement and will therefore organise student placements, allocation of mentors and workplace teaching. Hence, this role involves acting as a link between the clinical area and the HEI, as well as acting to support both mentors and students’ (CODP, 2009, pg 20). The CPC will monitor student progression and in some cases organise rotation of specialities to enhance student experience. It is also important that the CPC assists The SHU Placement Coordinator in the acquisition or dissemination of information that is deemed necessary by all parties involved in student ODP education. The CPC will be responsible for the verification of student competence evidence prior to submission to SHU.

VISITING LECTURER

‘The visiting/link lecturer (or tutor) develops and maintains lines of communication between the academic and clinical sites; acting as the conduit for students, clinical staff and academic staff. They have an overall view of the student experience and can support clinical staff in the support of students in clinical placement’ (CODP, 2009, pg 6).

In addition to the responsibilities through regular meetings with individual students, monitor progress and provide guidance as needed -

- Review placement paperwork (competencies etc)
- Review of reflections for each gateway
- Academic developments - identify any potential problems or areas of concern and provide appropriate support. (e.g. refer to student support officer, module leader, academic support services etc)
- Pastoral support as necessary - refer to appropriate support services as required.
- In consultation with individual students develop action plans as required to guide progress.
- Inform year tutor and course team of any potential problems that may have a negative impact on progression.
- Encourage a reflective approach by students and support personal development planning.