

**Health Professions Council  
Approvals Panel – 5 September 2006**

**VISITORS' REPORT & PROGRAMME APPROVAL**

**Executive Summary and Recommendations**

**Introduction**

The attached Visitors' report for the following programme has been sent to the education provider and following a 28 day period no representations have been received. The education provider has no conditions of approval to meet.

<b>Education Provider</b>	<b>Programme Name</b>	<b>Delivery mode</b>
University of Sheffield	BMed Sci (Hons) Orthoptics	F/T

**Decision**

The Panel is asked to –

accept the Visitors' report for the above named programme) and approve the programme

*or*

accept the Visitors' report for the above named programme and vary the recommendations made by the Visitors

**Background information**

None

**Resource implications**

None

**Financial implications**

None

**Appendices**

Visitors Report(1)

**Date of paper**

21 August 2006

## Health Professions Council

### Visitors' report

<b>Name of education provider</b>	University of Sheffield
<b>Name and titles of programme(s)</b>	BMed Sci (Hons) Orthoptics
<b>Mode of Delivery (FT/PT)</b>	F/T
<b>Date of Visit</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> July 2006
<b>Proposed date of approval to commence</b>	September 2006
<b>Name of HPC visitors attending (including member type and professional area)</b>	Moira Helm (Occupational Therapist) Patricia Blackburn (Orthoptist)
<b>HPC Executive officer(s) (in attendance)</b>	Karen Scott Osama Ammar (Observing)
<b>Joint panel members in attendance (name and delegation):</b>	Ian Peake (Chair)

#### Scope of visit (*please tick*)

<b>New programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Major change to existing programme</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Visit initiated through Annual Monitoring</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Confirmation of meetings held

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Senior personnel of provider with responsibility for resources for the programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programme team	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Placements providers and educators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students (current or past as appropriate)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Confirmation of facilities inspected

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Library learning centre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IT facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Specialist teaching accommodation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**Confirmation that particular requirements/specific instructions (if any) of the Education and Training Committee that have been explored e.g. specific aspects arising from annual monitoring reports.**

Requirement (please insert detail)	Yes	No	N/A
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Proposed student cohort intake number please state</b>	<b>30</b>
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## **Conditions**

None

## **Recommendations**

None

## **Visit Summary**

### **Set 1: Programme admissions**

The level of entry to the Register is at BSc (Hons) level.

The admissions procedures for the programme are robust and meet all the HPC requirements for this SET.

### **SET 2: Programme management and resource standards**

The senior management demonstrated a clear long-term commitment to the programme.

The programme is well managed. The programme team is a strong and cohesive unit providing an excellent service to students and placement providers. Staff are actively engaged in a range of continuing professional development activities, including clinical practice and research.

All specialist teaching spaces were considered to be fit for purpose and well appointed. In addition, positive advances had been made toward increasing the use of IT and technology for teaching and learning purposes.

### **SET 4: Curriculum standards**

Curriculum standards for the programme meet all the HPC requirements.

Both inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary learning are integral to the programme and this will be further enhanced by the changes already made to the programme.

All necessary aspects were included in the programme and it was not considered to need a recommendation for change. It was suggested that a stronger focus could be placed on ethics and the 'softer' side of the discipline in the first year of the programme.

### **SET 5: Practice placement standards**

All the HPC standards relating to placements are met by the programme.

It was evident from the visit that communication between the placement providers and the University were excellent despite the significant distances between some of the placements.

While there was no formal network between the providers themselves, it was suggested that the new IT systems implemented to enhance teaching and learning would also be an effective tool for enhancing placement networking for clinical tutors.

**SET 6: Assessment standards**

Assessment standards for the programme meet at all HPC requirements.

Recent, well-considered changes to the programme have ensured that re-take opportunities in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year bring the programme in line with standard practice at other UK institutions.

**Visitors' signatures:**

The nature and quality of instruction and facilities meets the Standards of Education and Training.

**Moira Helm**

**Patricia Blackburn**

**Date: 27th July 2006**