

Who are service users and carers?

Service users are people who have used health or social care services and therefore have experience in the ways in which the health service works. Carers are people who offer support or care for others, they are often family members. We would like to work with people of all ages and abilities and from a diverse range of backgrounds as this will give our students a great opportunity to understand and appreciate the service user and carer experience.

Do I need qualifications?

No, students will be learning through your experience, hence the term 'experts by experience'. The key skill is being able to share your experience with our students.

Will there be training?

Yes, the tutor responsible for the course will help you prepare. There is also 'Research Methods' training available if you decide your experience is best suited to the area of research.

Is there payment?

Yes, there is payment for contributions to teaching, interviewing students or working with us in an advisory capacity. If you are paid you will be formally joining the University as a Visiting Professional and you will be given an induction pack to guide you through the process.

Can I just volunteer?

Of course, we recognise that for a number of different reasons some people would prefer to have their contribution acknowledged in a non-monetary way but we will always ensure that you are reimbursed out of pocket expenses.