

3. Roles in Practice Education

Onsite Supervisors (OSS)

An Onsite Supervisor (or practice supervisor) is someone who take on the responsibility for supporting a student in the placement area/ team around the day day functionalities of the job role, usually management responsibility for the student's work.

The Onsite Supervisors Role is ideal for those who are considering being a Practice Educator, or those who want to contribute to, but not take full responsibility for, assessing a student. This role can provide valuable experience when considering your career development, gaining knowledge and skills in supervising and managing staff.

There are some specific requirements for this role:

- For a final placement student, it is essential for the OSS to be a qualified Social Worker
- The OSS must be competent to provide day-to-day practice supervision of social work students
- The OSS must be located in the same team as the student's practice learning setting

The following are the responsibilities of an Onsite Supervisor:

- Jointly responsible for planning and managing the placement, including the induction for the student
- Allocating work to the student
- Providing day-to-day support and formal supervision focusing on cases
- Contributing to the holistic assessment of the student's learning and development by regularly sharing information with the PE and contributing to the midway and final reports
- Attending placement meetings and OSS training and support days before and during placements
- Contributing to the quality assurance and evaluation of the placement.