University of ULSTER

SCHOOL OF NURSING

UNIFORM POLICY

As a University of Ulster Nursing Student on placement you are required to dress in a manner which is likely to inspire public confidence. Therefore, please ensure that you adhere to the following policy and behave in a professional manner at all times.

- For most placements you are required to wear the University of Ulster uniform. This is a white tunic with blue and green trim, navy (uniform) trousers and navy or black shoes (not trainers). Shoes must be *'closed in'* and safe for moving and handling of clients and equipment.

- You should where possible change into and out of uniform at the workplace.

- Where Health and Social Care Trusts have appropriate changing facilities these should be used. Students who are permitted to wear a clinical uniform for placements outside hospital should have it covered completely when travelling.

- Students are required to wear their name badge at all times except where the placement provider has a policy stating otherwise.

- Students should not be coming from clinical area / duty to the University in their uniform.

- Students should not go shopping or socializing in uniform or undertake similar activities in public.

- Students must change as soon as is practical if uniform or clothes become visibly soiled or contaminated with blood or body fluids.

- When in uniform hair should be worn above the collar. Long hair must be secured.

- A clean uniform should be worn for each shift.

- Wearing jewellery including rings, earrings and body jewellery is not normally permitted as this poses a health and safety risk to yourself and the patients in your care. Students must check Trust policy on each placement, which normally permits weddings rings and stud earrings to be worn.

- Finger nails should be short and clean, false nails or nail varnish is not permitted.

Laundering your uniform

- Uniforms must be carried separately from other items – clean and dirty uniforms must not be transported together.

- Hand washing uniform is ineffective and unacceptable.

- Wash separate from other items, in a washing machine.

- Wash in laundry detergent in the quantities advised by the manufacturer.

- Dry quickly, or tumble dry, and iron.

- Store in a plastic bag, to prevent contamination with dust or other pollutants.

- Please ensure that the Velcro name badge is attached to the uniform when it is being washed. This protects the Velcro and ensures the badge is also clean. Do not wash the Velcro badge above 60°C.

The company who manufacture the uniform advise:

- Polo shirt – wash at 40°C, do not dry clean, do not use chlorine bleach, tumble dry low heat, wash with like colours.

- Jacket – wash at 30°C, do not iron, wash inside out, close all fasteners, wash separately.

- Tunics – wash at 60°C, can be washed up to 85°C, do not use chlorine bleach, we would recommend this garment is washed inside out with like colours.

- Trousers – wash at 60°C, can be washed up to 85°C, do not use chlorine bleach, we would recommend this garment is washed inside out with like colours.

- Do not use powders with optical brighteners as this will affect colour.