We are all learning to share

The workplace is as much a learning environment as the classroom in the health sector, through educators, mentors, supervisors and assessors. Each profession has different terms for these roles but the reason and rationale for them is the same. You are there to pass on your knowledge, skills and experience to ensure that the next generation of healthcare workers provides the very best level of patient care.

In South Central alone there are at least 20,000 people in NHS trusts, primary care trusts, dental practices and GP practices in formal educator roles. There are many more people looking to education and training solutions to support positive change and service improvement.

At NESC we have thought long and hard about how we can accelerate learning between organisations, share good practice and learn from things that perhaps didn’t work first time. We hope that NESC Education will help achieve this in an accessible and appealing way. We want to make sure this magazine provides you with practical, repeatable examples that you can use in your own place of work.

In this issue we have case studies from Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust and the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust on specific training initiatives that are having an impact on patient care.

We are also debating the impact an all-graduate nursing profession will have for education and training and reviewing the latest proposals for modernising scientific careers. In our focus on libraries we give practical tips on how to get the most from your library. And, whatever your professional background, I hope you will benefit from an insightful interview with student midwife Victoria Blachford.

Many thanks to our editorial advisory board, who have guided the content of this magazine and offered practical support in getting this issue together. We are all keen that this is a useful and relevant publication, so please get in contact with us by emailing nesceducation@nesc.nhs.uk. Only by getting closer to understanding what you want will we capture the imagination and spirit of our education and training community – and make this your publication.

Lois Whittaker, Director, NESC

‘We want to provide you with practical, repeatable examples of good practice that you can use in your own place of work’