

BEDFORD COLLEGE  
(UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)

MEMORANDUM

To: Paediatric File

From: Marion.

13.1.84

Meeting - 13th January, 1984

Miss S. Barlow, Director of Nurse Education) Hospital for  
Miss P.A. Baker, Senior Tutor ) Sick Children  
Marion Ferguson (Nursing Studies, Bedford College).

Substance : Paediatric Secondment.

The paediatric secondment was classed by the Hospital as a "disaster". Students were undisciplined, late for lectures, late and/or absent from practice placements, did not hand in required work, did not verbally participate, displayed generally a positively cavalier attitude, and partially an openly disinterested one. It was not possible to single out one individual - the group dynamics conveyed this picture and the hospital representatives are reluctant to provide a second secondment.

The discussion centred around possible reasons for this behaviour, discussed expectations, sense of alienation, and possible control mechanisms which could be built into the next group of secondment to prevent recurrences. The group had apparently stretched the goodwill of the hospital. Neither clinical nor tutor personnel reaped any reward in relation to their input - preparation/teaching/interest. The group, as a group, has had difficulties all along, and the hospital's disappointment is in line with other teachers.

Miss Barlow and Ms Baker will re-think their position and contact this department as to their decisions by 20/1/84.