

BC AL/336/28/9  
G.N.C.

# THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

23 PORTLAND PLACE

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LONDON,

W1A 1BA

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

TELEPHONE 01-580 7416

IN REPLY  
PLEASE QUOTE REFERENCE.

MJC/AKM

YOUR REFERENCE.

23 March 1981

Mrs Ferguson,  
Director of Nursing Studies,  
Bedford College,  
Department of Sociology,  
University of London,  
Regents Park,  
London NW1.

Dear Mrs Ferguson,

We were glad to have so free ranging a discussion about plans for the Bedford College/MacDonald-Buchanan School of Nursing Degree Course which is scheduled to start in the autumn, at the meeting on the 18th March.

I thought it might be helpful to set down some of the issues we discussed and the action we might expect from each other.

### Staff for the Course

We were glad to know that a second lecturer post has been provided by Bedford College and is being filled at the present time. It is the Council's policy now to provide a grant for extending the clinical teaching provision once the course is established. The person appointed is expected to be a graduate nurse holding a recognised teaching qualification. When the time comes for this, during the first year of the course, we would need to have the name of the person at Bedford College with whom the Treasurer of the Council would relate. The sum set for this grant at the moment is £9,500.00 per annum and will be reviewed each year.

The Council expects that the teaching/learning environment provided in the School of Nursing by nurse teachers and ward sisters is available in a general sense to the undergraduates at Bedford College, but there are no specific nurse teachers with responsibility for the Degree Course. It is well understood that much time has to be expended in explaining the needs of the undergraduates to ward sisters and trained nurses and members of the Education Division may well help in this exercise.

### Curriculum

We were disappointed to find that the outline curriculum agreed in 1978 had not yet been developed very far, but would be glad to have at your earliest convenience:

- a) The most up to date course outline
- b) The detailed curriculum for the first year
- c) The programme of clinical placements

Examination and Assessment for the Awards of the Degree and  
Registration with this Council

We also asked to have a copy of the agreed criteria for the Award of the Degree and the system of Assessment of Competence to Practise which will satisfy this Council for the award of a Licence to Practise.

We also suggested that there should be pre-agreed procedures for students who do not succeed or who wish to transfer out of the course either to another academic course or to an orthodox nursing course.

We did express some doubts as to the volume of work still to be covered before the first entry of students in the autumn and, with this in mind, I would ask for a reply to this letter before the end of April 1981.

Yours sincerely,

*Margaret J. Cooper.*

Miss M.J. Cooper,  
Chief Education Officer.

27 April 1981

Miss Cooper  
Chief Education Officer  
The General Nursing Council  
23 Portland Place  
London  
W1A 1BA

Dear Miss Cooper

--- We are enclosing the information you requested in your letter of 23 March in the form of a comprehensive document setting out the aims, objectives and organisation of the course together with appendices giving details of the outline curriculum, clinical placements, details of the first year Nursing programme and the criteria for the award of the degree.

You will know that Dr Burton has been on leave during the vacation which he had arranged some considerable time ago. He is anxious to meet with you to discuss further in particular the staffing of the course. Perhaps we could make arrangements and telephone for a meeting in the near future.

Yours sincerely

DR I F BURTON  
HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT

MARION FERGUSON  
DIRECTOR OF NURSING STUDIES

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