

## **The Role of the Community Practice Teacher**

The community practice teacher role is undertaken following completion of Registered General Nurse training and Specialist Community Public Health Nurse (Health Visitor) training.

Following completion of this education, the health visitor will develop his or her knowledge, skills and competence within the profession. When this has been achieved, a Post Graduate Teaching Diploma and further education at Masters level will enable registration as a practice teacher with the Nursing and Midwifery Council. The NMC is the governing body for Health Visiting.

Community practice teachers (CPTs) design programmes of learning, which are then delivered and assessed within the community. In co-operation with other professionals, judgments are made about the proficiency of students. If successful, students may register with the Nursing and Midwifery Council. CPTs are accountable for this decision.

The teaching role is undertaken alongside the management of a caseload of families with children under five, professional development of colleagues, preceptorship, supervision and seminars for students.

Working as a CPT is both varied and satisfying, and it provides the opportunity to influence students with enthusiasm for lifelong learning and health visiting. But most importantly, it enables the practice teacher to make a positive difference in influencing outcomes for children.

If you are interested in becoming a CPT, get in touch with your health visitor manager, who will support you in contacting a colleague who can give you further information.

**Information supplied by Sarah Morton, Health Visitor and CPT.**