

# ADVANCING DISTRICT NURSING EDUCATION: THE ROLE OF RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) AND RECOGNITION OF PRIOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING (RPEL)



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## Aim

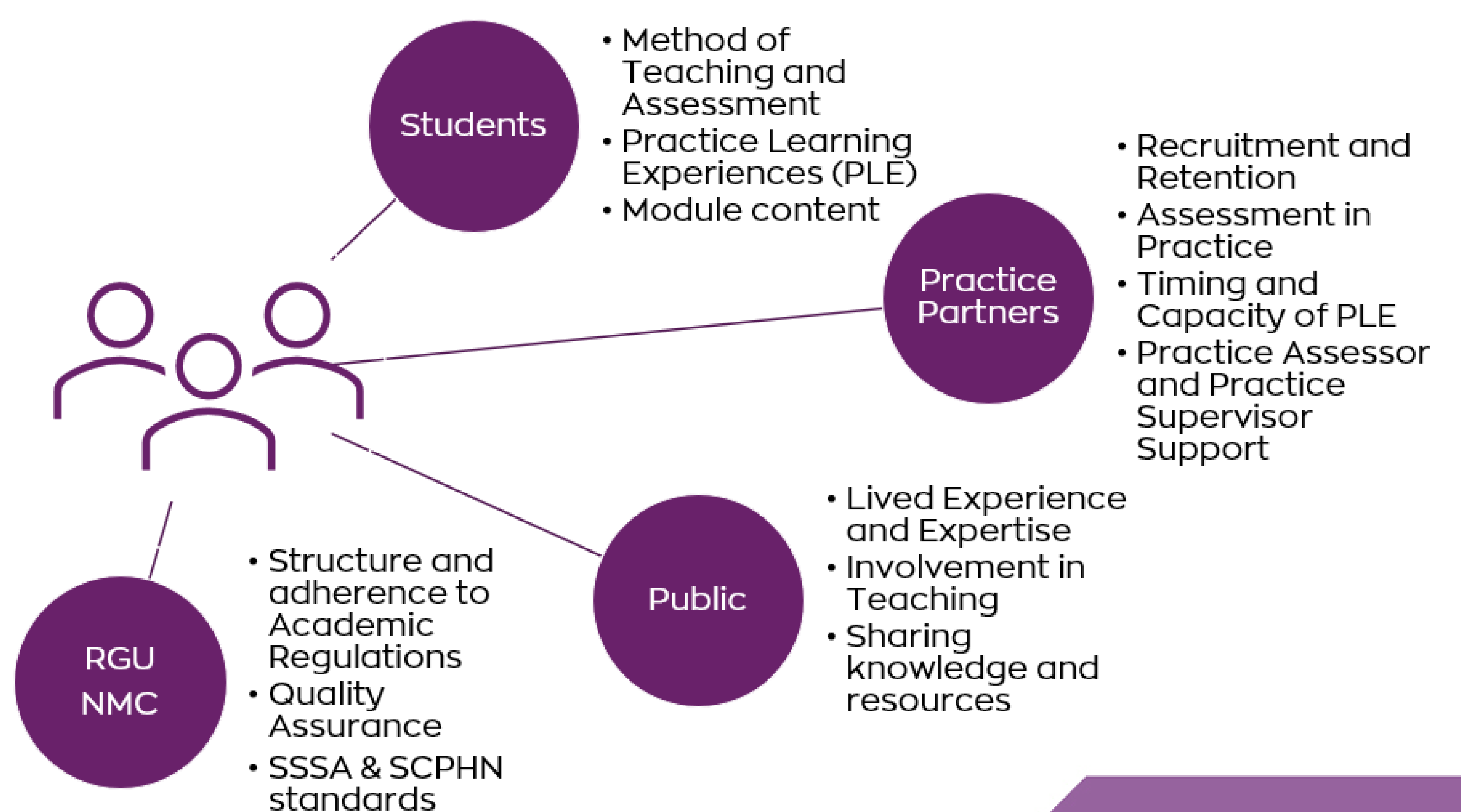
A key focus at Robert Gordon University (RGU) is to consider recognition of prior learning (RPL) and Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) meeting the diverse needs of learners (Scottish credits and qualifications framework (SCQF) 2025).

## Methods

- We engaged with our stakeholders to acknowledge the varying requirements for RPL/RPEL among students.
- We propose a flexible program that offers two routes (A and B) for the DN SPQ, tailored to individual needs (NMC 2024a).
- This approach integrates both theoretical knowledge and practical skills, aligning with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) standards (NMC 2024b).

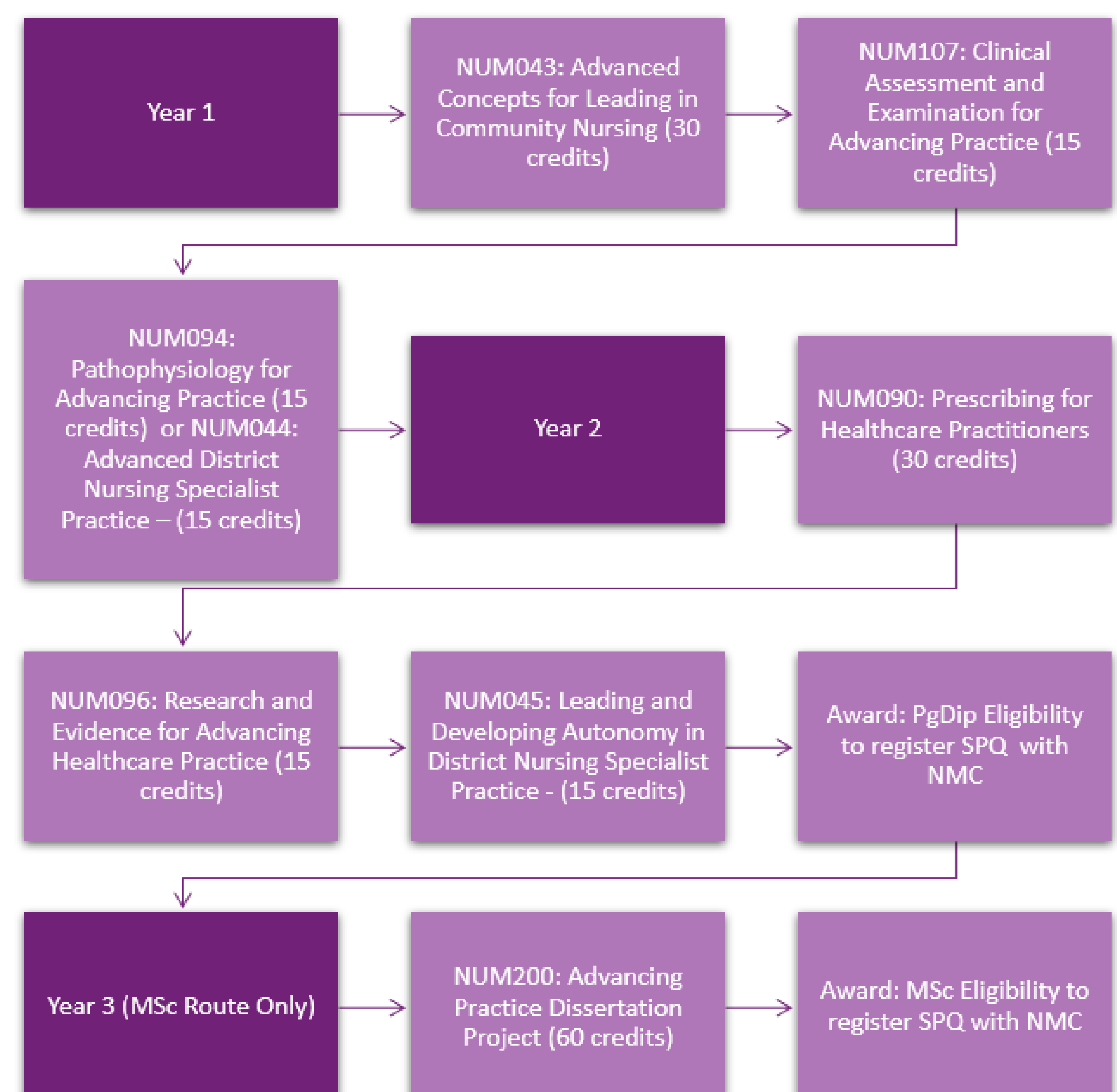
## Results/Discussion

The application of RPL/RPEL means that previous learning can be recognised and accepted as meeting some programme outcomes (NMC 2024b). The introduction of pathophysiology at level 11 on Route A in place of a practice learning experience (PLE) module considers the individual's skill set.



## Conclusion

RGU recognises that RPL/RPEL is a vital component in developing competent healthcare professionals (NMC 2024a). By tailoring educational experiences to individual learning stages and proficiencies, we aim to improve practice outcomes and address the current workforce challenges in health and social care.



## References

- Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) (2024a) Standards of proficiency for community nursing specialist practice qualifications (SPQ). Available at: <https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/standards-for-post-registration/standards-of-proficiency-for--community-nursing-specialist-practice-qualifications/> (Accessed: 22 January 2025).
- Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) (2024b) Standards for education and training. Part 3: Standards for post-registration programmes. Available at: <https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/standards-for-post-registration/standards-for-post-registration-programmes/> (Accessed 22 January 2025).
- Scottish Credits and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) (2025) RPL for educators and advisers. Available from: <https://scqf.org.uk/rpl-hub/rpl-hub-educators-and-advisers/> (Accessed 22 January 2025).

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