

# UNITY: Bringing Service Users and Students Together

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# Who is UNITY?



Service user and carer involvement integral to Social Work programmes

The UNITY group was established in 2005

Regular meetings scheduled for the full year

A welcoming, inclusive environment where everyone's views are encouraged

Catering is provided – symbolic message of welcome and appreciation

Everyone should feel they are getting something out of it

Adoption of co-production principles: Reciprocity, Equality, Accessibility & Diversity (SCOE, 2013)

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# Workshops and other Involvement

Orientation Days

Induction- Ideal Social Worker

Being on the receiving end of services

Interview skills

Experiences of mental ill health

Experiences of different abilities

Law & Policy in Practice

Mental Health workshops with Nursing students

University of Calgary student workshops on ethics & values

Selection scenario consultation

Founder members of the Scottish Inter-University Service User and Carer Network

Stakeholder meetings

Programme Revalidation  
Graduation



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# Interview skills workshop



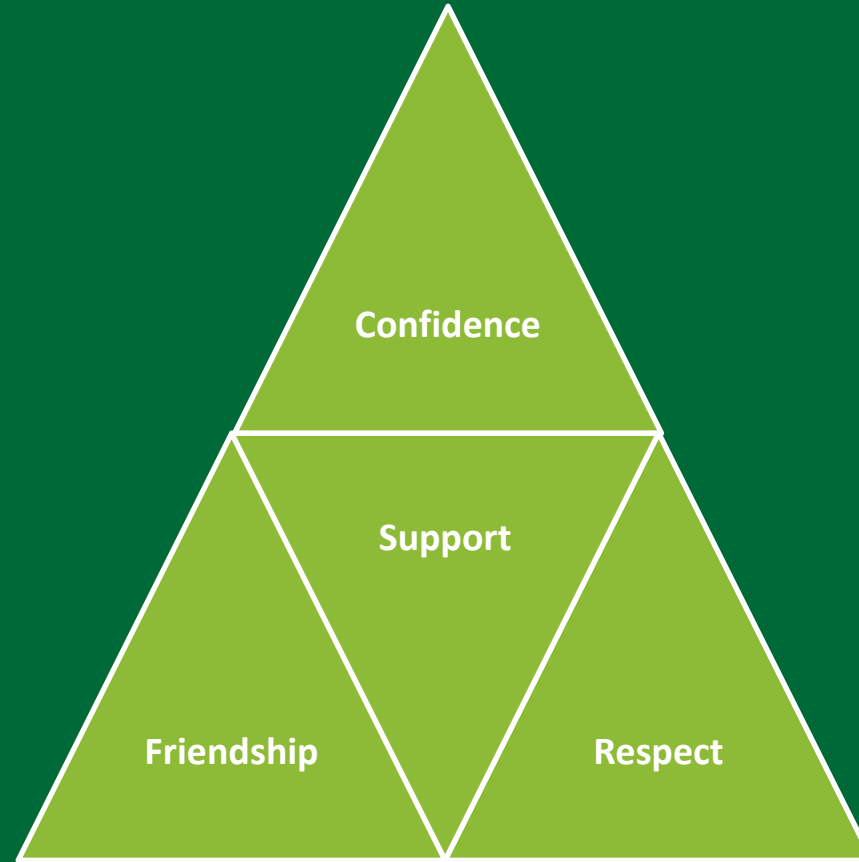
Skills development before students undertake practice placement.

Scenarios based on Unity members' real life experiences.

Students work in triads (one interviewing, two observing). Rotate around different Unity members.

*What unity is to me, by Linda McCulloch.*

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# What do the students and faculty say?



[Padlet](#)

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# A few barriers



Can be reliant  
on support  
workers

Diversity

Access

Finances

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# Thank you! Questions?