

**Florence Nightingale Foundation welcomes the University of Derby
as its very first Higher Education Institution Academy member**

Florence Nightingale Foundation is thrilled to announce that the University of Derby has become the very first Higher Education Institution to join FNF's Academy as a member.

This is an exciting and historic moment; when FNF opened the Academy doors to HEIs in November 2021, we envisaged future generations of nurses and midwives engaging with our programmes, debates and agendas. Now, nursing and midwifery students, as well as academic staff at the University of Derby will be the first to enjoy these opportunities for growth and development.

Education providers play such a crucial part in encouraging, shaping and inspiring students, and the Foundation couldn't be more pleased that the University of Derby is our inaugural member. By joining the Academy as members, student and registered nurses and midwives at the university will become part of FNF's network and will be able to make an impact across their fields of expertise.

With this membership, students and academic staff at the University of Derby can, among other benefits, contribute to policy consultations, gain opportunities for elective placements, and enjoy access to leadership programmes including Nightingale Frontline, a peer group coaching service.

Dr David Robertshaw, Interim Head of School – Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Derby, said: "We are excited to be joining the Florence Nightingale Academy as a founding institutional member. Florence Nightingale grew up in Derbyshire, the home of our university, and we are proud to share these links with her.

"We look forward to continuing work with the Academy – and partner organisations – to realise Florence's legacy of achieving potential, provoking change, and introducing new ways of working to make a positive impact. These are at the heart of who we are as an applied university of today and for tomorrow: opening doors, being a force for positive impact, and moulding the next generation of game changers."

Igniting leaders, fuelling potential.

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Royal Patron: HRH Princess Alexandra, The Honourable Lady Ogilvy KG GCVO | Patron: Sir Robert Francis QC | President: The Baroness Watkins of Tavistock

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Dr Denise Baker, Interim Pro Vice-Chancellor Dean of the College of Health, Psychology and Social Care at the University of Derby, said: “Our association with the FNF is an important step for the University of Derby and will provide both staff and students with opportunities to engage at a national level on matters concerning the nursing and midwifery professions. We look forward to working with the FNF and taking Nursing and Midwifery forward here at Derby.”

Professor Greta Westwood CBE, CEO of the Florence Nightingale Foundation, said: “I am delighted that the University of Derby will become our first HEI member; Derbyshire was Florence’s first family home county. I’m really looking forward to working with the team and providing opportunities for student nurses and midwives.”

Professor Gemma Stacey, Director of the Florence Nightingale Academy, who joined the University of Derby as Visiting Professor in May 2021, said: “The relationship between the Florence Nightingale Foundation and the University of Derby is going from strength to strength. The commitment to supporting its staff and students to realise their leadership potential and expand their influence is integral to the culture, and I am thrilled FNF is able to enhance these opportunities. I had the pleasure of delivering a lecture on authentic leadership to the MSc Mental Health and Adult Nursing students and was totally inspired and energised by their values, intrinsic motivation and passion for the profession. It is an absolute joy for FNF to be part of their journey from the outset.”

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