



**St Bernard's Hospital
Harbour Views Road
Gibraltar**

PRESS RELEASE

No: 177/2008

Date: 23rd July 2008

Exciting New Opportunities in Nursing

The Gibraltar School of Health Studies is pleased to announce that, from September 2008, it will be offering a number of new and exciting opportunities in nurse education in partnership with the Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences in Kingston University & St George's University, London.

Three new programmes will be offered, alongside the Diploma in Adult Nursing. These are:

- A Degree/Diploma in Mental Health Nursing (RNMH)
- A Degree/Diploma in Children's Nursing (RNC)
- A Degree in Midwifery (RM)

On successful completion of these three-year programmes, graduates will be eligible to register with the Gibraltar Nurses' and Midwives' Registration Board and to apply to register with the Nursing and Midwifery Council in the United Kingdom.

The first year of the Degree/Diploma in both Mental Health Nursing and Children's Nursing will be delivered in Gibraltar, and the final two years will take place in London at the Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences in Kingston University and St George's University, London.

The Degree in Midwifery will take place wholly in the Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences in Kingston University and St George's University, London.

The Minister for Health, Yvette del Agua said, " This important new initiative is crucial for three reasons. First, it means that we are training local people for the specialist areas, for which we have traditionally had to rely on contract workers. Second, it enables those who wish to train as mental health nurses and children's nurses and midwives to train in their chosen specialty without first having to do Adult Nurse Training. Third, for RNMH and RNC training, the first year can be completed in Gibraltar.

Claire Hope, Principal Lecturer and Course Director said " We are very excited about being able to offer these programmes and are grateful to Kingston and St Georges Universities for their support in helping us make this a possibility".

Further information about how to apply for these programmes can be obtained from Human Resources at St Bernard's Hospital. Applicants for these degree programmes will require 2 A levels and 5 O levels – which should include mathematics and English. The closing date for applications is 4th August 2008.

Notes for Editors

Interviews with staff about the new programmes and benefits to local staff, or with staff already qualified in these specialisms talking about their roles and responsibilities can be arranged through contacting Dr Karen Norman, Chief Nursing Officer on Extension 2316.