


## Description

## Covid-19 is Here!

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### Safe and protected?

The first year of my midwifery degree was ticking along nicely. I was doing well academically and I wasn't awful in practice either. I have a lovely little group of friends who are supportive and friendly. Honestly, I don't know how I would have survived this course without them. I was partway into my postnatal ward placement when the reality of this pandemic hit me. Up until this point I'd been one of those people who had sort of dismissed the seriousness of the situation. I felt that as I was doing the hand hygiene routines my years of experience as a maternity care assistant and my first six months as a student midwife had drilled into me, I was protected and was protecting those around me.




**A change of mind**

But something happened during a shift on the postnatal ward that changed my mind. I was 10 hours into my 13.5 hour day shift. I'd learned loads of new skills and had had a great review from the midwives who were mentoring me that day. I was on cloud nine. Then we heard. A death. Covid-19 had claimed one of it's first UK victims in our hospital. We were scared now. It was here.

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**The new normal**

The next day, life went on as normal. Except that it wasn't normal at all. We all went into practice as if it were a normal day. Except that that day wasn't normal either: after much deliberation our university and the Trusts we were allocated to, decided that it was best that student midwives were removed from practice until further notice. Little did we know that that last shift would be our last shift for a long time. It could be weeks, it could be months. Many were relieved to be away from the threat and protecting their families. Others were grieving for the practical training they were about to miss out on. Some were upset that they had been removed when they felt they needed to fight alongside their mentors on the front line.

**We've got this!**

For me, I have felt the five stages of grief for the first year of my midwifery studies. Covid-19 has taken so much from us all. But it will never rob us of our passion for helping people. We've got this Covid Cohort!



**Category**

1. Student Midwife Blog

**Tags**

1. coronavirus
2. COVID-19
3. England
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5. support our students

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