

Description

Meet The Student Midwife Editorial Board! – Kat

Kat Skeates (she/her)
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Did you know the Editorial Board for The Student Midwife is entirely made up of student and newly-qualified midwives? We commission, write and edit all the articles that fill our wonderful journal, so we know we're bringing content that is of the most interest and use to you. Let's dive in and meet one of the team!

This month we're talking to Kat Skeates, a second-year student midwife from South-East England.

What's your role at TSM and how long have you been involved?

I've been an Editorial Board Member since January 2020. My first article, co-written with Laura Henry, was published in the January 2021 issue and I'm really proud of it.

What's your background?

I trained as a journalist and worked in communications and online journalism for a few years. I chose to leave the sector

as ultimately it wasn't for me, but I wanted to continue writing so joining TSM alongside my midwifery studies was the perfect opportunity.

What made you choose midwifery?

There was no lightbulb moment for me so I can't put my finger on it exactly. My mum is a nurse and two of my aunts are midwives, so it has always been part of my world. I wanted to do something that was worthwhile and made a real difference which I wasn't getting in my previous career. The moment I put on my uniform and stepped into the hospital I knew I'd definitely made the right choice. I feel at home in midwifery, and it brings me joy every day.

What are your main values that drive you?

Trust, honesty, and communication.

What's your proudest moment so far?

I'm not sure yet – maybe making it this far? I've only had one catch so far and it was a delightful waterbirth, but mum did all the work, not me!

What is the most pressing issue facing the sector?

Much the same as many other parts of the NHS – staffing and funding. Without safe staffing we can't provide the care we so desperately want and need to give.

How do you think the sector could be improved?

Filling the staffing gaps. Paying students even just an apprentice wage – something that makes it all seem worthwhile.

What's your one tip for student midwives?

Always ask "why?".

What do you enjoy doing outside of university/midwifery?

I crochet and enjoy going for walks and socialising with friends but I'm honestly a massive couch potato. Netflix and snacks is a hobby right?

How do you take your tea?

Strong with soy milk.

What's for dinner tonight?

Homemade Chinese! **TSM**

Category

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