

Description



Did you know the Editorial Board for The Student Midwife is 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 time we're talking to Gemma, she is a third-year student midwife at the University of Nottingham.

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

I am an Editorial Board Member and am relatively new to TSM, having been involved for just over six months.

What are your main values that drive you?

Compassion paired with optimism/positivity.

What's your proudest moment so far?

Being able to provide antenatal and intrapartum continuity for a family through my second-year case-loading segment was a real highlight of the course so far. Providing authentic relationship-based care was very rewarding and reiterated the benefits of continuity within maternity.

What's your area of passion?

I am particularly passionate about parent education. I believe we can improve women and birthing peoples' experiences and outcomes through the sharing of knowledge and that this should be accessible to everyone. A career goal of mine is to develop contemporary parent education curriculums that are more inclusive and diverse.

Is there anything you dislike about midwifery?

I wouldn't say that there is anything I dislike about midwifery – like any other profession it has its challenges and often it is the politics that can be frustrating. One of my biggest gripes – this applies across healthcare in general – is how bad we are at looking after ourselves and each other. We strive to provide holistic and compassionate care to families but so often we neglect self-care and self-compassion and the longer we continue to practice this way, the more of a norm it becomes.

How do you think the service could be improved?

I think that by continuing to train, recruit and nurture passionate and enthusiastic student midwives who are entering the service with keen and fresh eyes is a positive step in improving services from the inside out.

What's your preferred assessment style?

I would prefer a debate or an exam over an essay any day!

Is there a topic you'd like to learn about that isn't covered at university?

I feel there could be more teaching around inclusivity, diversity and alternative narratives of maternity care throughout the curriculum in general.

What's your one tip for student midwives?

Utilise your time as student and don't be afraid to play 'the student card' – ask the 'silly' questions, arrange the insight days, expose yourself to learning opportunities, soak up every experience.

How do you take your tea?

Milk, no sugar – borderline builders brew. **TSM**

Category

1. Student Midwife Blog

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