Professional Values

A discussion session for Healthcare Students with the Professional Development Team
Overview of session

• What does the term ‘Professional Values’ mean to you as a student?
• Definitions of Professional Values
• Comments for discussion
• ‘What do you see?’
• References
Definition of Professional Values

.... professional values are the guiding beliefs and principles that influence your work behaviour.

....your professional values are usually an extension of your personal values such as honesty, generosity and helpfulness.

....while these values may change over time and around different life events, your **core beliefs** should stay the same.
Professional Values

- Giving care
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Trust
- Freedom
- Safety
- Knowledge
- Altruism
- Autonomy
- Human dignity
- Social justice
Although some values are considered more important than others in certain professions, there are some universal values that should be, and usually are, held and practiced in all of them. These universal values are:

- ‘first, do no harm’
- ‘keep it simple’
- ‘honesty is the best policy’
What are your thoughts on the following comments?.....

'students/newly qualified are not aware of healthcare traditions, healthcare culture or what it means to be a healthcare professional'

'students/newly qualified have no sense of professional values or behaviour'
What do you see?
What are your thoughts?
In essence…

• Values lie at the very heart of healthcare delivery

• Healthcare professionals need an awareness of their values and an understanding of how those values influence their behaviour and its impact on humanistic care
Health & Care Professions Council (2012) *Standards of conduct, performance and ethics*. London: HCPC


References

