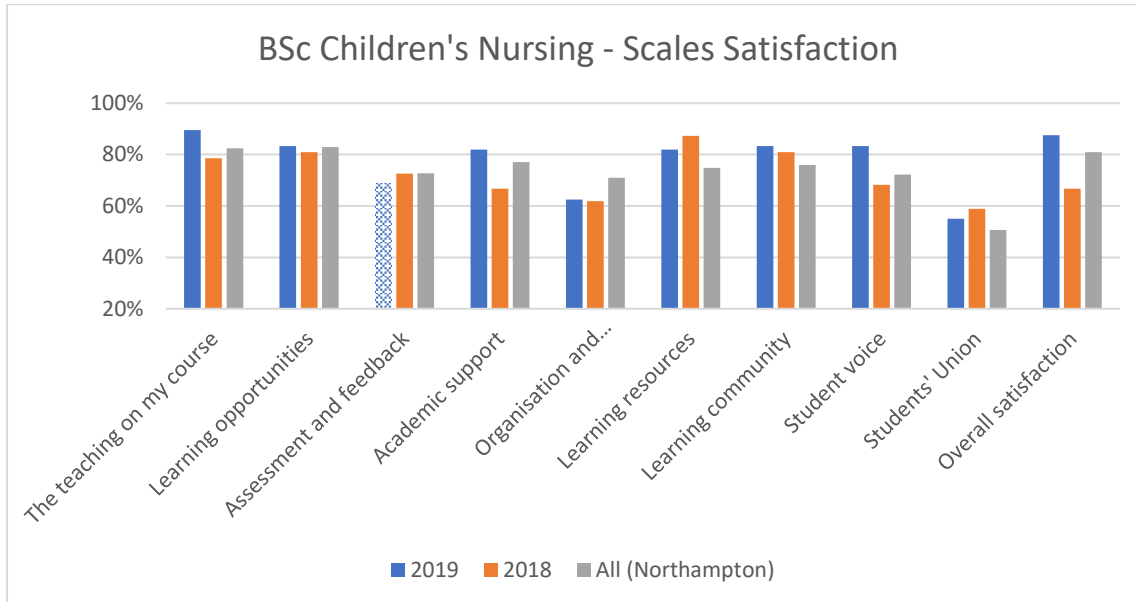


### **BSc Children's Nursing**

A 21-ppt advance was witnessed in overall satisfaction for BSc Children's Nursing, taking it above the University's threshold. This trend was repeated for both teaching on my course and academic support – in the latter case, approval as regards respondents receiving advice to make study choices (Q14) increased by 20 ppts from last year. However, assessment and feedback continues to struggle, and this has now slipped further behind its threshold; here, only 58% concluded that marking had been fair (Q9), while 63% thought that the marking criteria had been clear in advance (Q8).



Meanwhile, the organisation and management scale is still performing below par:

- Well-organised course (Q15): 58% (up by 11 ppts);
- Efficient timetabling (Q16): 67% (down by five ppts);
- Communication of changes (Q17): 63% (down by four ppts).

Respondents were complimentary towards the academic staff, who were 'very supportive' and 'always there for you'. In addition, the placement opportunities were described as 'amazing' and 'really enjoyable'. One said: "The support within [the] University and when you are on placement is second to none. The placements are varied and give great learning opportunities."

Despite this, the course was often seen as 'disorganised'. Students felt that placements were 'not always allocated with enough notice', and occasionally 'far from home addresses'. Indeed, one sample member said: "The University provides placements with the wrong dates or have not let placements know that we will be attending." Other organisational issues were that 'marking is very inconsistent', 'assignment guidelines are not helpful' and 'changes to the timetable are announced very late and don't always reach students'. It was noted that PebblePad is 'not user friendly for the mentors who don't have enough time to fill it in, as well as [completing] their day-to-day activities.'

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Students must be given the correct details and sufficient notice of their placements. All assignments should have clear and detailed marking rubrics to ensure fair and consistent marking. Assignment briefs should be clearly linked to learning outcomes and be distributed to students. Better promotion of the MyNorthampton app to staff is required, so that they send out notifications to students in the event of room changes.