Inspires students and newly qualified nurses not only to provide the best possible care but also to be excited by the many career opportunities that nursing has to offer.

Taking nursing beyond the fundamentals, this key text is based on the applied principles, policies and structures of contemporary adult nursing practice, and takes a holistic and practical approach in guiding students through the realities of becoming a qualified practitioner.

Section One draws out the key aspects of the journey from student to practitioner and emphasises the key principles, context and policy guiding and underpinning contemporary nursing in the UK. Section Two addresses the care themes first highlighted by Lord Darzi, including first contact, access and urgent care; supporting long term and palliative care; acute and critical hospital care; mental health and psychosocial care; and public health and primary care. Each chapter draws on the key principles and issues of care within that theme and presents the best evidence base for practice, as well as highlighting contemporary issues and areas for continuing professional development.

All chapters will draw on the four dimensions of practice essential for sound professional practice, and will also present an overview of current career pathways and key roles in modern nursing.

This practical guide is essential reading for all nursing students working with adult patients, as well as qualified nurses who are seeking to develop their own practice.