**Reflection- Leadership placement Bridging the Gap**

This placement has allowed me to bring together my interest in equality, diversity and inclusivity, with my interest in leadership and project management. I have been able to gain a whole host of new skills that complement my practice as a physiotherapist, and hopefully make me stand out in a non-clinical manner.

From the leadership aspect, I have grown to know my leadership style and understand that I am an organizer when it comes to working in group settings. I take the initiative to start conversations and create projects as well as events and can organize my time and work so that things run smoothly. One thing that I have learnt, and that I will continue to take forward in my practice, is that drawing on the evidence base and available literature is highly important. I will use literature to inform my practice when creating treatment plans for patients and justify my actions by referring to current practice. I have thoroughly expanded my presentation abilities and have gained a huge amount of confidence in speaking and showcasing my work to experienced clinicians. Within this, I have reflected on how I can communicate effectively to convey information clearly and efficiently, and through attending leadership webinars I have gained skills relating to communication, influencing people, and the importance of good leadership specifically within the NHS.

From the perspective of the topic, bridging the attainment gap for BAME students and helping educators support students on placement, I have been able to discuss issues relating to equality and diversity in depth. Through taking part in the podcast, I have explored these topics by drawing on personal experiences from within group as well as research involving students. This was all used to help inform our toolkit for educators and taught me the importance of justifying my actions by providing supporting evidence. Looking forward, I will be continually developing and working on this in my practice, for example in my CPD. Additionally, another skill that I need to work on is networking. I have seen that creating professional networks, for example through twitter, you are able to advertise events nationally and therefore spread ideas quickly and far, you are also able to gain an insight into work that others are conducting and expose yourself to new topics and areas of discussion which is hugely beneficial for personal and professional development.