

Wessex Head of School Newsletter

November 2024

Welcome from Dr Manjiri Bodhe (Head of School) & Dr Nick Moore (Deputy Head of School)

Welcome to our November edition of the Wessex Head of School newsletter. I wanted to update you on what is being offered in Wessex for our Trainers and our Resident Doctors. Please note we have changed our terminology in referring to our doctors in training to align with that adopted by the BMA and NHSE, so we will refer to them as Resident Doctors throughout this newsletter.

We have recently updated our website to include our Frequently Asked Questions, <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/general-practice/gp-training/> Many questions can be answered here and may save you the time of sending an email.

Contact Updates

Since September 2023, our contact details have been updated, please ensure you are using the up-to-date email addresses going forwards.

GP School england.gp.wx@nhs.net

Dorset england.dorsetgptraining.se@nhs.net

Mid-Wessex england.mwgpe.se@nhs.net

Portsmouth england.portsmouthgpenquiries.se@nhs.net

Southampton england.sotongpeuteam.se@nhs.net

Inductions

It was lovely to see so many of our GPST1s at the recent Welcome to Wessex, IMG, and speciality inductions, we hope you had enjoyable sessions and gained an insight into how we are here to support you on your training journey.

If you feel that you require support as a new to the UK trainee, then please contact the IMG Welfare Service.

<https://www.hiowpeople.nhs.uk/img-welfare-service/> or

<https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/trainee-information/trainee-journey/international-medical-graduates/>

TSS (TIS Self Service)

With the updated TIS Self Service (TSS) trial, there were no placement confirmation emails sent in May, and we are planning to continue utilizing the TIS self-service.

You will be able to log in and view your placement details at Code of Practice, these will be uploaded to TSS leading up to Code of Practice and will be available to view by Wednesday 13th November 2024.

Exams

Please speak to your Educational Supervisor about the best time for you to sit your exams.

Please see the RCGP AKT pages for further information <https://www.rcgp.org.uk/mrcgp-exams/applied-knowledge-test>

You can view recorded SCA webinars and Q&A sessions for Trainers and Trainees here. <https://www.rcgp.org.uk/mrcgp-exams/simulated-consultation-assessment/preparing#Webinars>

For any educators who would like to develop further skills in this area and have not already attended an AKT SOX course, for further details please contact england.gpexams.wx@nhs.net

Trainer & Trainee Support

In addition to the Trainers Grant, we also have several other resources to support trainees. The Professional Support and Wellbeing Service (PSW) can provide pastoral support to trainees.

If you feel you or your Resident Doctor would benefit from additional support, please speak with your Patch Associate Dean who can advise on the best way we can help.

A referral to The Professional Support and Wellbeing Service (PSW) should be jointly conducted by the Resident Doctor and the Trainer. For more information about the PSW team please see the website. <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/wellbeing-and-support/psw/>

MPS Indemnity

As a doctor, you have a professional responsibility to ensure you are indemnified for your full scope of practice as a Resident Doctor (Please see the guidance on the [GMC website](#))

Doctors who undertake training in General Practice or in a non-NHS setting (e.g. local authority, voluntary and third sector, hospice etc) need to arrange for additional indemnity cover.

If you are a current Resident Doctor and haven't already signed up more information can be found here, <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/trainee-information/employment-matters-2/medical-indemnity/> There are steps you need to take to register to gain your indemnity cover. This is provided free of charge, but you do need to register individually to access this.

Education Funding Agreement

The Education Funding Agreement has now been sent out to the South East, if you haven't received this, please do let us know so we can chase for you.

Trainers with GMC conditions

We want to remind trainers that if they have any involvement with the GMC, we expect this to be flagged to your local patch Associate Dean so that we can ensure both you and the trainee receive appropriate support.

Resident Doctors supervising other members of the practice team

We wanted to remind trainers and trainees of the GP School's guidance around the supervision of ARRS roles. All these staff should have a nominated, fully qualified GP as their point of contact for clinical queries. This responsibility should not be passed to a trainee.

ARCP

For ARCP guidance please speak to your TPD/ ES/ Patch and see below links

<https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/general-practice/gp-training/>

<https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/accreditation-and-revalidation/arcp/>

<https://www.rcgp.org.uk/mrcgp-exams/wpba/annual-review-of-competence-progression>

Travel to and from the workplace

It has come to our attention that a number of Resident Doctors do not hold a valid driver's licence and means to travel within their job.

I would like to remind you all, that the person specification that you signed when you applied to GP stated the following: "Hold a current and in date valid driving licence or provides an undertaking to provide alternative means of transport when providing emergency and domiciliary care to fulfil the requirements of the whole training programme."

When working in a full GP post, or an Integrated Training Post (ITP) which has at least part of the week in primary care, it is important to ensure that you have appropriate transport. Trainees can claim mileage expenses when working in a GP placement on days they are expected to do a home visit (up to 3 days per week), but apart from that there is no reimbursement of travel costs to and from the workplace. More information here <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2024/04/GP%20Mileage.pdf>

For those who hold an international driver's licence, please ensure you check that the licence is valid. If you need help with getting a UK driving licence, our IMG welfare support team can help. More information here: <https://www.hiowpeople.nhs.uk/img-welfare-service/>

If you have queries, please speak to your nominated Training Programme Director.

Post-CCT visa sponsorship podcast

Our AD for International Support, Dr Katie Collins, has recorded a podcast with Wessex LMCs on post-CCT visa sponsorship. The podcast details background information, a newly qualified GP's personal experiences, and reflections from a Practice Manager on becoming a visa sponsoring practice. The podcast is available from <https://wessexlmcs.podbean.com/page/2/> or via the Wessex LMCs podcast channel on whichever is your preferred podcast provider. (It is the recording dated 02/08/24.)

GP registrars completing training

GP registrars need to be included on the performers list at the point they complete training, in order to be able to work as GPs in primary care.

One of our most frequently asked questions, by applicants and practice managers, is about how long it takes to get on the Performers List.

PCSE will process all Performers List applications in a timely manner, reliant on the applicant submitting all the information necessary to complete our checks and process the application. We will get in touch if we need to clarify anything about your application.

Once all checks are complete, we hand the application off to NHS England (NHSE) for approval. For GP registrars completing training, the approval process is usually straightforward.

Please note, PCSE is not involved in the approval process. We appreciate applicants' patience during the process. If you have provided everything you need to, there is no need for you to contact us.

When the application is approved by NHSE, Performers will receive a confirmation email (inclusion letter) and from that point they can work in primary care.

Updating your status

If you are a GP registrar who has completed CCT, you will need to change your status to Performer in PCSE Online.

When you change your status, you will be invited to share your details with your Local Representative Committee (LRC). You can do this in the 'Personal Details' section. You will need to either consent or decline consent in the 'Personal Details' section in order to save any changes in PCSE Online.

You can find more information on this in the [Performer Management user guide](#).
