

Wessex GP School Newsletter

July 2026

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

Welcome to our July edition of the Wessex GP School newsletter.



This month we extend a special welcome to Professor Chris Warwick who is now the Primary Care Dean for the whole of the South East region. Chris brings a wealth of experience, having been Primary Care Dean in the Kent, Surrey and Sussex (KSS) Deanery since 2020.

Professor Mary-Rose Shears has now left Wessex to take up a national role, and we wish her all the best for the future.

We would also like to give a warm welcome to all General Practice Registrars that will be joining us in August. We hope that you are able to attend the upcoming Welcome to Wessex, GP School Speciality inductions and the GP IMG Inductions and that you find these insightful.

GP School website – IMG page

We have a page of dedicated resources for international graduate GP Registrars and those supervising international graduates. It includes a variety of resources including GP-specific versions of the "Hello Supervisor" forms; the "Spend a Penny" booklet; and the recently created visa FAQ document. <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/general-practice/international-medical-graduates-imgs/>

Incident Reporting Form for Resident Doctors

As well as being documented in the portfolio and on the Form R, there are certain incidents that also need to be reported. More information about this is below.

<https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/accreditation-and-revalidation/revalidation-medical-doctors-in-training/how-revalidation-works/>

Self-assessment declaration for trainers

All trainers should have received and completed the NHS England Primary Care Education Quality Self-Assessment 2026 for trainer re-approval via their PCN Lead. The deadline for submission has been extended until Friday 31st July 2026. If you are experiencing difficulties in submitting or need help please contact england.primarycareschooltw.se@nhs.net

Please note that this self-assessment replaces all the supervisor re-approvals previously undertaken by your local Patch Associate Dean.

Educator Courses

From April 2026 the GP School england.gp.wx@nhs.net has been administering the Educator courses rather than the PDU team. Keep an eye on the website for course detail and how to book on <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/general-practice/gp-educational-supervisors/>

We will be running the following courses in 2026/2027:

- Combined Supervisor Course, this is for F2, Clinical Supervisors and for Out of Hours.
- Assessment and Portfolio Masterclass
- Experienced Trainers Course
- And the newly developed Educator Supervisor Course

If you have completed the Prospective Trainer course, and were waiting for the New trainer course and you haven't yet been contacted please email england.gp.wx@nhs.net

Less Than Full Time Training

Please be reminded of the process and application windows if you wish to apply to train at less than full time. The application window for February 2027 is now open and will close 16 weeks prior to the rotation date on 13/10/2026.

You will be required to speak to your Patch Associate Dean prior to applying and you will be supplied a supporting statement to attach to your application.

If you are applying outside of this window under an urgent and exceptional request, you will be required to follow the guidance and email the LTFT Associate Dean to gain prospective email approval prior to applying england.ltft.wx@nhs.net.

You can find guidance and the application on the LTFT webpages:

<https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/trainee-information/trainee-journey/less-than-full-time-training/>

Avoiding placement at registered practice

Residents should not be placed in a GP practice where they are registered as a patient, and this is something we routinely check for across the school. This expectation is discussed at induction and in emails about placement allocations- patch teams review allocations early on to help identify any potential conflicts.

If you are a Resident and find that you have been placed at your registered practice, please let your patch team know so that an alternative placement can be arranged.

Statutory leave and sick leave

Please be aware that as well as informing the lead employer and placement, if any Residents are on long term sickness or statutory leave (greater than a week), it is also essential to inform the local patch team and GP school. This is so we can ensure that any educational issues are supported appropriately, as well as considering if there will be an impact on a Resident's future placement.

Study leave

We have updated the Wessex study leave guidance for GP Residents which can be found here <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/south-east-study-leave/>. Please be aware that use of study leave for exam revision is not supported and requests for this will be declined. For Residents in GP posts, the working week allows for 12 hours of educational time, 4 of which are free for personal study and revision. The day of the examination can be taken as study leave.

Travel to and from the workplace

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 can be found on GP Home to Base Mileage. <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/nhse-south-east-relocation-expenses-and-excess-travel/>

Please ensure you have adequate motor insurance in place as required in the NHS Terms and Conditions Handbook section 17.

Examination fees

Following the announcement that the BMA membership have accepted the recent offer from the government to end industrial action, we have had a number of queries from Resident doctors as to when they will be able to claim for examination fees. We have not yet received any formal guidance on how and when this will be implemented, therefore as it stands, there is no change to our existing study leave and reimbursement policies. As soon as we receive this then we will update our processes to reflect this

Thank you

We'd like to congratulate those doctors due to CCT this summer, we wish you all the best in your General Practice career. Thank you once again to all Trainers for all the great work you are doing to support medical education and our future workforce in Wessex.