

Phase 2 Students

We are grateful that we continue to receive your feedback on the current online provision of teaching and learning in Phase 2 of the MB ChB. Some students have asked for further clarity on what we expect from students during this period of remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The MB ChB degree is achieved following a programme of professional training and students must demonstrate professional attitudes and behaviour consistent with the high standards that are expected of a doctor. We would like to remind you that medicine differs from other degrees in that you must demonstrate a certain level of engagement with professional practice in order to prove that you have achieved the General Medical Council, Outcomes for Graduates.

The GMC has set out via an EU mandate, a minimum of 5500 hours that a medical student requires in order to graduate as a doctor. In the past we have defined this by physical attendance at the University and clinical placements and the MB ChB Attendance Policy (revised this year) clearly sets out the rules and sanctions regarding attendance. Other UK medical schools have similar attendance policies.

Clearly, you are currently not able to physically attend the teaching space and with new social distancing rules this may also affect teaching going forward. However, we will still be asked by the GMC to demonstrate what has been taught during this period in order to allow you to satisfactorily progress and then graduate. We have therefore termed this an 'engagement' rather than 'attendance policy' but the general principles still apply.

You will therefore be expected to engage with 100% of the online learning events provided by the University.

This will include downloading the lectures, participating in the online sessions and completing the self-directed learning tasks. It is not necessary to participate in real time if you are in a different time zone, but the expectations of notional work time per day has been set out in detail below. We would like to reassure you that if you participate in these sessions in a timely manner and commit to the time requirement of the course, then you will be meeting the online learning and engagement requirements of the MB ChB programme.

If you have some other issues during lockdown that make it harder for you to engage with the online learning, then please communicate this with your Personal Tutor or Student Support.

The Phase 2 online learning curriculum is being developed based on several sources:

- *The usual lectures you would receive in each Block are being converted to online recorded lectures and/or live interactive lectures by clinicians and healthcare professionals usually involved in the Block teaching.*
- *'Self-directed learning sessions', including narrated tutorials, case-based presentations, ELFH modules and quizzes. These are based around the 'index cases' in each Block workbook or act as supplemental learning to live and recorded lectures.*
- *Other interactive methods of learning, such as simulated clinical cases that will simulate the interaction with patients at a time where such 'face to face' ward interaction is not possible.*
- *Reflective learning, including e-portfolio entries reviewed by educational supervisors, and podcasts looking at the bigger questions faced by Doctors in the 21st Century.*

*The above material is regarded as essential work and **should** be completed over the course of the day, where possible. You should notify student support if this is not possible.*

Based on the above material, we have therefore written the below as a set of guidelines for your learning on a daily basis:

- 1. The essential daily educational material is designed to take between 3.5 and 4.5 hours in total. Designate a specific time each day to complete the daily activities and stick to it. Block out at least 4 hours a day (in one hour blocks with 15 minute breaks). We advise putting "University time" in your diary and sticking to those hours.*
- 2. Find a quiet dedicated area to work – do not work from your bed – prepare for work like you would if you were coming to the University.*
- 3. Learning that has been deemed optional by the Medical School will be clearly labelled on Moodle. We believe that this material will enrich your educational experience and is a chance to consolidate learning, especially in areas where you feel there are gaps in your learning.*
- 4. We appreciate that this is a very different way of learning and we are trying to vary the methods of teaching so that different styles of learning are reflected where possible. The Medical School are monitoring engagement with the material to ensure that we can identify and support those students who may be struggling with the material or the style of learning in isolation.*
- 5. Managing distractions is going to be hard – switch off all social media, your mobile phone, and TV while you are studying – stay focussed.*
- 6. We are grateful to those volunteering and caring for others during this crisis. However, we do expect your daily studies to take priority for the period of time described above. We appreciate on certain days this may not be possible. All material can be 'caught up with' and remains on the Moodle pages. We would recommend that the work is a priority for the next working day where possible so you do not feel like you have fallen behind. Should this become a regular issue for you, please contact your Personal Tutor or the Student Support team for further support.*
- 7. When listening to the videos make notes of key points- notes should not be at the expense of listening to the live lecturer, especially if they are asking the group questions. Involve yourself in the online chats during these sessions to bounce ideas off one another.*
- 8. Use the forum – make suggestions, share resources*
- 9. Set up online study / discussion group*
- 10. Reward yourself when completed the daily activities*
- 11. Feedback is crucial. We are listening and are working hard to tailor the sessions to what you feel you need and what we know you need over the course of your studies. The aim is to have you as best prepared as possible for the return to the clinical environment. Please continue giving feedback via the Moodle portal via the [Medical School](#) link.*

The Medical School Phase 2 Curriculum team will monitor weekly the following metrics:

- 1. Moodle login and download of learning materials;*
- 2. Length of time participating in required activities;*
- 3. Individual participation with clinical quizzes;*
- 4. Successful completion of, and grade of formative assessments;*
- 5. Two weekly completion of remote learning form on eportfolio;*
- 6. Completion of external modules and upload of certificates on eportfolio.*
- 7. Completion of all relevant eportfolio entries in accordance with the ARPP minimum requirements.*

Online learning and engagement will be dependent upon, and monitored in line with, student GMT time zone, parental or caring responsibilities or significant other personal working situation that you have notified us of.

We recognise that for some of you that your physical location in relation to GMT, parental/carer responsibilities or a familial situation may necessitate that you cannot attend a live hosted session but require you to access this through a remote recording. This will be considered as fulfilling the requirements of the online learning and engagement policy.

The Medical School has ensured that the Student Support provision, including necessary academic or pastoral support is available to you all as you work remotely. If your individual circumstances are preventing you from meeting the requirements of the MB ChB virtual learning and engagement policy, please do contact your Personal Tutor and the Student Support team for guidance on resolution.