



England

A horizontal bar with a gradient of colors: light green, green, blue, and dark blue.

SAS Newsletter

July 2026

What's included:

A message from the Associate Postgraduate Dean for SAS & LEDs	Page 2
SAS Regional Development Programme	Page 3
Bursaries and Fellowship Updates	Page 4
Postgraduate Virtual Learning Environment – PGVLE	Page 4
Train the Trainer	Page 5
LED Regional Study Day	Page 5
Support and Wellbeing	Page 6
Useful Links	Page 6

A message from the Associate Postgraduate Dean for SAS & LEDs

Since the last Newsletter, there have been several developments nationally which have direct impact upon SAS & LE doctors. The structure of NHS is changing to make healthcare services more efficient. Resident doctors' strike and its outcome is another factor which will have a bearing on future availability of training posts in the country and have bearing mainly on LE Doctors. There are new developments on the horizon which will help with better training, improved supervision, longer contracts and better job satisfaction for LE doctors. We will share more details once more information is available.

Last year NHS England initiated SAS recognition awards. Trusts in England were invited to apply via their SAS Tutors for these awards. Trusts who fulfilled specific criteria through their practices and policies in looking after SAS doctors were allocated national awards. This month successful Trusts were invited by Professor Geeta Menon, National Dean for Inclusive Integrated Careers, for an impressive awards ceremony in London. Several Trusts were awarded bronze and silver awards although there were no successful Trusts from East of England.



SAS Excellence in Development Award winners with Prof Geeta Menon in London.

This academic year we have an impressive EOE developmental programme with 29 workshops and webinars. The programme is over and above the Trust based programmes funded by NHSE EOE. The programme is based on feedback received from tutors and the suggestions outlined in the EOE SAS & LED regional surveys. The events are painstakingly organised by Faculty Support Team and the activity is developed at a significant financial cost to benefit SAS & LE doctors. If you have booked a course but are unable to attend then please inform the Faculty Support Team as soon as possible and the place can be offered to another doctor on the waiting list.

The closing date for SAS & LED Recognition Awards is approaching and the winners will be announced at the Tutor Development Day on the 5th of October 2026. Please nominate colleagues whose hard work and dedication needs to be recognised and acknowledged.

In EoE there is provision of individual study leave funding for SAS. This funding is discretionary and is based on EOE study leave guidelines. Please read the guidelines before applying otherwise you may be disappointed if your application does not fulfil the desired requirements.

I hope you will find this Newsletter helpful. Please explore the information as there are many developments which you may find helpful in your endeavour to progress your career.



SAS Regional Development Programme

We are delighted to open bookings for a wide range of development sessions for SAS Doctors working within the east of England. We have carefully reviewed all the feedback given in the 2026 SAS Survey and worked with a wide range of excellent training providers to put on a varied development programme of topics you requested.

Important information

- To maintain fairness and equal opportunities for all, NHSE asks that you register to attend a maximum of four (4) of the below sessions.
- It is important that you only register to attend the sessions that you can attend. Spaces are limited and although these opportunities are free to attend, there is a cost associated to each place covered by NHSE EoE.
- If you book a space but can no longer attend, please ensure you take the time to cancel your space, so that your place may be offered to someone else. **If you fail to do this, your Trust will be informed and may be charged for your space.**

All information on the workshops available can be found on our webpage here:

<https://heeeoe.hee.nhs.uk/sas-new/webinars-and-workshops>.



Bursaries & Fellowships Update

We are delighted to celebrate recent successes in supporting the professional development of SAS and Locally Employed Doctors (LEDs) across the region. For postgraduate courses commencing in **September and October 2026**, a total of **eight SAS doctor bursaries** were awarded, representing an investment of **£26,500**. This included **three bursaries at Anglia Ruskin University (£3,000 each)**, **four at the University of Cambridge (£3,500 each)** and **one at the University of Hertfordshire (£3,500)**.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that **one SAS doctor and two LEDs** have been successfully appointed as **Virtual Learning Fellows**, with their fellowship posts commencing in **September 2026**. These achievements highlight our ongoing commitment to creating opportunities for SAS and LED colleagues to develop their educational, leadership and professional skills.

Planning is also underway for the **next bursary round**, which is expected to open in **September 2026** for courses commencing in **January and February 2027**.



Postgraduate Virtual Learning Environment - PGVLE

What is PGVLE?

The PGVLE has replaced Bridge from the 1st April 2026 and is used by current Trainees who, if not already, will also be moving across to PGVLE, if you have been using Bridge to date then this includes you also.

Functionality of PGVLE

PGVLE will provide you access to regional teaching, various Courses and Programmes directly related to your chosen Specialty. This platform caters for the postgraduate clinical education and faculty development and is expanding across England. This initiative is a clinically driven project built and run by doctors in a collaborative way with collegial intentions. Clinical training programmes encompassing multiples different disciplines have transitioned to online or hybrid teaching models using this platform. It is a complete online experience and is powered by Moodle and the Big Blue Button. It continues to expand with ongoing growth focused on supporting all grade of doctors in both learning and professional development.

Next steps

To register for a PGVLE account please complete your details in the following form -

[PGVLE Access Request – Fill in form](#)

Please include which Specialty you are linked to, this will assist us with ensuring you can view the correct content in PGVLE. New accounts are created weekly on Fridays, and you will receive an email from PGVLE with your login details. Please note the email may go into your junk folder, check there in case the email doesn't arrive in your regular inbox.

If you have any questions or require any further assistance, please contact the Blended Learning team at england.blendedlearning.eoe@nhs.net



Train the Trainer

We are pleased to announce that the next round of Train the Trainer sessions are now available to book on the Postgraduate Virtual Learning Environment (PGVLE). These popular sessions are open to SAS and LEDs and provide valuable opportunities to develop teaching, supervision and educational skills. All upcoming dates and booking links can be found on the East of England HUB Events page under the Train the Trainer section. We encourage colleagues who are interested in enhancing their educational practice to explore the available sessions and secure a place.

<https://heeeoe.hee.nhs.uk/foundation/training-programme/hub-events>



LED Regional Study Day

We are excited to be launching the **first East of England Regional LED Study Day** on **9 September 2026**. The event will be delivered virtually via **Microsoft Teams** and will provide a dedicated learning and networking opportunity for Locally Employed Doctors (LEDs) across the region. Further details, including the full programme and speaker line-up, will be shared closer to the event. Please use the below form to register your interest.

[LED Regional Study Day - Expression of Interest – Fill out form](#)



Support and Wellbeing

The Professional Support & Wellbeing Service

The Professional Support and Wellbeing Service (PSW) supports doctors, dentists and pharmacists in training with targeted solutions support. The PSW provides one to one specialist support through a dedicated case manager and our external providers to help individuals through these difficult periods. This service extends to SAS and LED's.

Our service is referral based. To complete a self-referral, educator referral or exam referral please click the link here: [How to refer | East of England](#). The PSW website includes some useful information on wellbeing via our [Blogs](#) and [testimonials](#). For further information on the PSW please click the link here: [PSW EoE | East of England](#).



Useful Links

SAS Webpage Link - [Click Here](#)

SAS Newsletter Archive - [Click Here](#)

Tutor Contact Information - [Click Here](#)

Professional Support and Wellbeing - [Click Here](#)

Individual Development Fund - [Click Here](#)

SAS Doctor Bursary - [Click Here](#)