

GP Teaching

We run an educational programme on Wednesday afternoons from 14:00 until 17:00. This will run for 30 weeks of the academic year and is split into 3 terms - Autumn, Spring and Summer. You are expected to attend every week for the whole afternoon during your hospital and GP rotations, although, we do allow you to have the occasional holiday!! Your average attendance across the whole year should be no less than 70% and a record is kept of this as we are required to send the Deanery attendance figures on a regular basis. Please ensure that you sign the attendance register. If you are unable to attend teaching, please do let us know via email as soon as possible giving a brief reason why.

There is a set programme for the afternoon sessions which is based on the GP curriculum developed by the Royal College of General Practitioners. This curriculum forms the basis of the MRCGP, which is the assessment procedure for all GP registrars. We recognise the value of the curriculum as a foundation for general practice training, however, it would be impossible for the VTS day release programme to effectively cover all aspects of the curriculum, even in 3 years, so, we aim to cover the areas that we feel probably won't be covered elsewhere and would encourage you to regard the day release programme as part of your overall learning rather than the complete learning experience. We would also encourage you all to become very familiar with the GP curriculum itself so that you can assess your own progress and learning.

The afternoon sessions are generally split into year groups as follows:

All ST1's and ST2's, whether in GP or hospital posts - Lecture Theatre, Ed Centre.

ST3's - Education Centre at Southend Hospital - please refer to the term timetable for location of session.

Occasionally, we hold all year group sessions and these take place in the Lecture Theatre - please refer to the timetable for dates and session subjects.

The term timetable can be found within Microsoft Teams - GPST Half Day Release within which you will also find any speaker presentations that we have been permitted to share with you.

We do ask you to complete a feedback form at the end of every VTS session. These help us to evaluate how well the afternoon has gone and provides useful feedback to our speakers. Thank you for taking the time to complete these.

Please note the following information:

As a trainee, you receive 30 days study leave (WTE) per year of which 15 are automatically marked for Half Day Release (HDR).

Trainees in GP practice receive HDR every Wednesday to attend either teaching sessions or if no teaching session then to use the time for educational activities such as Joint Surgery, Hospital clinics, practice audits, Significant events and addressing PDP needs and ePortfolio or shadowing opportunities in the practice.

Trainees in hospital posts receive HDR on those Wednesdays that teaching is on and when it is not you are to use the time for educational activities but it does not necessarily need to be on a Wednesday and this is rota dependent.