

Health Education England south east COVID-19 update bulletin (Issue five) 1 May 2020

This bulletin covers education and training updates

Health Education England (HEE) is working with partners to support the system-wide response to COVID-19. Our priority is to ensure trainees and learners are kept informed of immediate changes to their training and recruitment, as well as to support returners to the NHS. This bulletin should be read in conjunction with the [HEE COVID-19 webpage here](#).

In this bulletin we will provide:

- An overview of HEE and our partner's national response to COVID-19
- Additional HEE updates and publications
- An update from the [south east region](#) and the local hubs across [Kent, Surrey, and Sussex](#); [Thames Valley](#) and [Wessex](#)
- Signposting to useful resources and contact information

We are supporting all professions to rapidly grow to meet the needs of patients:

Intensive Care Medicine training: extra training places funded

Intensive Care Medicine is a specialty that recruits at a higher training level, which means doctors are already experienced in areas like medicine, anaesthesia, and acute care. The investment in training will help sustain critical care and increase the ability to keep critical care beds open by increasing the appropriate medical staffing available. You can read the [full update here](#).

HEE SupportTT Fellows help doctors returning to training

HEE SupportTT Fellows and the HEE team have been working together to develop and deliver a series of online learning to doctors returning to training. If you missed the knowledge refresher and wellbeing webinars for doctors returning to training [you can watch them online here](#). To find out more about the SupportTT team [visit here](#).

Advice and guidance for Medical Trainees

HEE's Acting Director of Education and Quality, Sheona MacLeod shares HEE's advice and guidance in a BMJ article published on 24 April. You can read the [full BMJ article here](#).

Midwifery students

HEE's Chief Nurse, Mark Radford, and Senior Midwife, Sally Ashton-May, will be hosting a webinar on Friday 1 May at 19:00 for Midwifery students. Mark and Sally will be answering queries from student about their options in supporting the COVID-19 effort and will also be joined by the Chief Midwifery Officer, Jacqueline Dunkley-Bent, two student midwives and a representative from the Royal College of Midwives. The webinar link will be shared on [@NHS_HealthEdEng](#) Twitter account nearer the start time.

Allied Health Professionals (AHPs)

HEE continues to ask universities to contact their eligible AHP students to discuss their options for using their education programme to help with the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. You can view the [student support guidance and joint AHP leads letter on under the student support guidance during COVID-19 here](#).

Healthcare Scientists

On Friday 1 May at 14:00, Professor Berne Ferry, Head of the National School of Healthcare Science and Jane Lynch, Training Programme Director for the Scientist Training Programme (STP) will be holding a webinar aimed at STP trainees and training officers to capture and respond to their queries and provide guidance. The link for the [STP Webinar can be accessed here](#).

We are ensuring core HEE work continues to support our NHS colleagues:

Letter to final year GP Specialty Trainees

A letter has been sent providing GP Trainees an update on the efforts to address the current issues for trainees in their final year of GP specialty training. HEE have been working with the Royal College of GPs, the GMC, the BMA, NHS England and Improvement (NHSE/I), and the Department of Health and Social Care to determine a way forward.

HEE have also been working with GP trainees' elected representatives and trainee concerns have been heard across all organisations. To find out more visit the [COVID-19 information for trainees \(training and progression\) webpage here](#).

HEE south east COVID-19 update
1 May 2020

A blog by HEE's Deputy Medical Director about GP specialty training

HEE's Deputy Medical Director, Professor Simon Gregory has authored a blog to explore GP specialty training during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. You can read the [full blog online here](#).

HEE's learning exchange with Uganda

HEE's Chief Nurse, Mark Radford has joined Ugandan health officials to share learning on how HEE is supporting the NHS in the fight against COVID-19. You can read the full [news story here](#).

We are making sure all professions have the training they need to make a difference:

HEE e-Learning for Healthcare (e-LfH) updates

The [COVID-19 e-LfH programme](#) is still being well used by the health and care workforce and has been launched over 880,000 times since it went live mid-March 2020.

The e-LfH have recently added the following to their COVID-19 programme:

- A new webinar for pharmacists supporting 111 via the Returning Clinicians Programme (excluding GPs). The full [webinar can be viewed here](#).
- The updated standard operating procedures (SOPs) for NHS London Nightingale has been added to the "Resources for Staff Working in Critical Care Setting" folder and [can be accessed here](#).
- New resources for AHPs has been added to the "Resources for Staff Working in Acute Hospital Setting" folder and [can be accessed here](#).
- New content for radiographers has been added to the "Resources for Specific Professions" folder and [can be accessed here](#). The resources include radiographs of the adult chest and COVID-19 Radiography Journal articles.

e-LfH resources for Nurses, Midwives, and AHPs returning to work, being redeployed or up-skilled

A repository of resources is now available for Nurses, Midwives, and AHPs returning to work, being redeployed or up-skilled on e-LfH, and [can be accessed here](#). The resources include specific learning pathways for the following healthcare professionals:

- [Registered nurses and AHPs deployed from a different clinical speciality](#)
- [Returning nurses](#)

- [Newly registered nurses and AHPs, or students opting into a revised programme structure](#)
 - [Internationally trained nurses awaiting UK registration](#)
 - [Independent sector nurses supporting the NHS](#)
 - [Returning midwives](#)
 - [Physical skills for nurses and AHPs working in mental health, learning disability and autism](#)
 - [Nurses deployed into a primary and community care setting](#)
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Supporting the wellbeing of the NHS workforce

Primary care workforce wellbeing survey

NHS E/I and the Institute for Employment Studies are running a [survey](#) to understand the current wellbeing of the primary care workforce and to support the wider evaluation of the [#LookingAfterYouToo primary care coaching offer](#). If you work in Primary Care, please complete the short [survey here](#), it will take no longer than five minutes and will contribute towards the ongoing response to support the primary care workforce wellbeing.

Additional HEE updates:

Interim Physical Health Competency Framework

HEE's interim [Physical Health Competency Framework for Mental Health and Learning Disability settings](#) has now been published. This framework incorporates elements of the knowledge and skills needed for registered clinical staff working in mental healthcare and/or learning disability settings to be able to meet the physical health needs of service users with serious mental illness and/or service users with a learning disability.

HEE continues to evaluate the framework and will publish the final version later this year. If you have any questions regarding this, please email mentalhealth@hee.nhs.uk.

Making Every Contact Count (MECC) – providing support in everyday practice

Two resources have been launched to support behaviour change as part of everyday practice.

The first resource is the [MECC Evaluation Guide](#) which is a practical toolkit developed by Public Health England (PHE), HEE, and London South Bank University, based on insights from local MECC leads, gathered during the planning and running of their project evaluations.

The second is the [‘Everyday Interactions’ toolkit](#) which provides clear and concise guidance for health and care professionals wishing to record and measure their public health impact based on a MECC framework. This work has been undertaken by the Royal Society for Public Health, PHE, and partners including the Royal College of Nursing.

Behaviour Change Development Framework webinar

HEE has launched the beta version of the [Behaviour Change Development Framework and Toolkit](#), which aims to enable and empower individuals and workforce leads to assess and develop behaviour change skills which are appropriate and proportionate to their service users’ needs.

Colleagues are invited to a webinar scheduled on Tuesday 5 May, from 13:30-15:30. The webinar will introduce the framework and toolkit and aimed at all those involved in behaviour change development working at system/organisational levels and those involved in commissioning behaviour change services or workforces. To register your interest, please email PHNetwork.WX@hee.nhs.uk.

Advanced Clinical Practice Capabilities Framework when working with people who have a learning disability and/or autism

The new capabilities framework for Advanced Clinical Practitioners working with people who have a learning disability and/or autism is now available and freely accessible for all [online here](#).

The framework outlines what good governance of services for people with a learning disability and/or autism should include and will have a range of uses by different organisations, including employers and commissioners, as it can be used to underpin commissioning, workforce planning, education and training, as well as the development of career pathways and new ways of working.

South east regional updates:

Staff updates

We are pleased to welcome our recently appointed HEE south east Regional Nurse, John Clark. John has been Chief Nurse in the Midlands and prior to that worked across the south as the Director of Education Quality.

Rebecca Tyrell has recently taken on the role of HEE’s Acting AHP Workforce Lead for the south east during COVID-19 and has been seconded to the role of AHP Workforce Programme Director for the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West, Integrated Care System.

HEE south east COVID-19 update
1 May 2020

Nick Haddington is the new Pharmacy Dean for Thames Valley, Wessex, and the south west region. The Kent, Surrey, and Sussex (KSS) School of Pharmacy is provided by HEE London and south east team.

HEE south east COVID-19 AHP student guidance and data tool webinar

On Monday 4 May 15:00-16:00, HEE south east will be delivering a webinar to support the implementation of HEE's guidance and processes on AHP student deployment in response to COVID-19. The webinar is aimed at Higher Education Institution (HEI) leads, Chairs of AHP Councils, system AHP leads, Chief AHPs and Workforce Leads and will focus on:

- Four nations statement, letter to students and letters to HEIs
- AHPs in scope
- Student data collection and reporting
- Safe deployment of students to Trusts (job descriptions)
- South east:
 - Roles and responsibilities in HEE
 - Data processes and access in the region
 - Next steps

If you would like to find out more and join, please contact Rebecca.Tyrrell@hee.nhs.uk.

KSS Hub:

KSS staff continue to work remotely, they are well equipped and are available on e-mail, mobile, Microsoft Teams, and Skype.

Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education (PGMDE)

Relevant KSS medical and dental COVID-19 response and trainee updates can be found [online here](#). The Healthcare Education Team (HET) can be contacted for any medical and dental trainee enquires via the [support portal here](#) in the first instance. Trainees should be aware that the HET team are working around the clock to respond to queries, and that they should explore the FAQs available first to see whether their query has already been raised and addressed by someone else.

Quality

All students, trainees, and learners have been informed on how they can raise any concerns related to their clinical learning environment via their professional/educational networks. In the case of significant or urgent concerns which have not been possible to resolve using local or usual routes, trainees can contact HEE directly via the emerging concerns email for all learners on EscalatingConcerns.KSSQuality@hee.nhs.uk. This email inbox will be monitored closely by the senior dean team and should only be used where local resolution has not been possible.

Pharmacy

The KSS pharmacy team continues to ensure that trainees, educators, and pharmacy leads are kept informed of any changes to the programme of activity in the short term and have also created a dedicated [COVID-19 webpage on the pharmacy website](#) which is updated daily. The team can also be contacted via lasepharmacy@hee.nhs.uk.

Further contact

For all other KSS learners (incl. SAS Doctors) or business support enquiries, the team can be contacted via Business.KSS@hee.nhs.uk.

Wessex Hub:

Wessex staff continue to work remotely, they are well equipped and are available on e-mail, mobile, and Skype.

Quality

The Wessex quality team will continue to liaise with trust providers to keep up to date where concerns exist, particularly where triggered visits have been cancelled. This will be done in a proportionate way to reduce the workload for providers. The Wessex Quality Committee will continue to meet virtually to review current educational quality issues and deal with new concerns. The quality team can be contacted with any concerns via quality.wx@hee.nhs.uk.

Pharmacy

The HEE south pharmacy team is working to ensure that trainees, educators, and pharmacy leads are kept informed of any changes to our programme of activity in the short term and will be communicating accordingly with the relevant groups in the coming days and weeks. The HEE south pharmacy team can be contacted on Pharmacy.South@hee.nhs.uk.

Thames Valley Hub:

Thames Valley staff continue to work remotely, they are well equipped and are available on e-mail, mobile, and Skype.

Quality

Trainees will continue to be able to report any concerns directly as per the [Thames Valley escalating concerns process here](#). For further information please contact the Thames Valley quality team on escalatingconcernstv@hee.nhs.uk. The quality team can be contacted on quality.TV@hee.nhs.uk.

Pharmacy

The HEE south pharmacy team is working to ensure that trainees, educators, and pharmacy leads are kept informed of any changes to our programme of activity in the short term and will be communicating accordingly with the relevant groups in the coming days and weeks. The HEE south pharmacy team can be contacted on Pharmacy.South@hee.nhs.uk.

Thank you for reading and further information:

By following [@NHS_HealthEdEng](https://twitter.com/NHS_HealthEdEng) on Twitter you can keep up to date with new information and resources as they are published. Most importantly are the notifications of webinars being broadcast during the week.

Right now, making sure we are communicating properly is incredibly important. If there's any information you think is missing on the [HEE webpages](#), please let us know by submitting your question to the [HEE Q&A helpdesk](#). If you have any direct queries regarding this bulletin, please email HEEKSSProgrammes@hee.nhs.uk.

Useful resources:

HEE's national COVID-19 page: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19>

Primary Care COVID-19: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/primary-care/>

Secondary Care COVID-19: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/secondary-care/>

UK Government: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-COVID-19-list-of-guidance>

General Medical Council – information and support news: <https://www.gmc-uk.org/news/news-archive/coronavirus-information-and-advice>

General Dental Council: <https://www.gdc-uk.org/>

Heath and Care Professions Council: <https://www.hcpc-uk.org/registrants/updates/2020/how-we-will-continue-to-regulate-in-light-of-novel-coronavirus/>

Nursing and Midwifery Council: <https://www.nmc.org.uk/news/news-and-updates/how-we-will-continue-to-regulate-in-light-of-novel-coronavirus/>

General Pharmaceutical Council: <https://www.pharmacyregulation.org/>

e-learning for Healthcare COVID-19 programme: <https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/coronavirus/>
