

Health Education England south east
COVID-19 update bulletin (Issue 12)
19 June 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 [HEE's COVID-19 webpage](#).

In this bulletin we will provide:

- An overview of HEE's and our partner's national response to COVID-19
- 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 professionals to rapidly grow to meet the needs of patients

Message from HEE's Interim Chief Executive, Professor Wendy Reid

Professor Wendy Reid wrote her [weekly message](#), which focuses on safeguarding our future workforce supply and minimising disruption to training to get back on track.

Message from HEE's Chief Nurse regarding student placement payments

HEE's Chief Nurse, Mark Radford has [published a statement](#) to thank students who came forward to support the NHS during COVID-19 and provided information on paid placement arrangements. To find out more, [read the full statement on HEE's website](#).

ARCP webinar recording is now available

On Wednesday 3 June, HEE hosted a webinar for medical trainees on ARCPs. The recording of the [ARCP webinar](#) is now available on the [HEE YouTube channel](#).

Impact of COVID-19 on students survey

Over 11,800 responses have been received so far for the [Impact of COVID-19 on Students Survey \(ICONS\)](#). This survey will remain open until Tuesday 30 June 2020 and will help HEE understand the experience of medical, dental, nursing, allied health professionals (AHPs), and healthcare science learners, whether they have stepped into clinical practice, into new environments to support frontline clinical services or have opted to continue with their academic studies.

If you have any queries about the survey, please contact Quality@hee.nhs.uk.

Nursing Associate case study

This week HEE's National Nursing team shared [a case study about Kelsey Bell Chambers, a first-year trainee nursing associate](#) who speaks about her experience on the apprenticeship at [MacIntyre, a learning disability charity](#), during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hannah Crampton, Kelsey's Manager at MacIntyre, says:

“Kelsey's support has been instrumental during this pandemic. Her skills and knowledge gained from her nursing associate training have aided the service in terms of monitoring people's changes in health, taking the lead in liaising with GPs and supporting people who have shown symptoms of COVID-19, through monitoring and reporting.”

To find out more about Kelsey and her role, read the [full case study](#) on [HEE's Nursing Associate website](#).

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

Enhancing Junior Doctors' Working Lives update report 2020

HEE has recently updated the 4th [Enhancing Junior Doctors' Working Lives annual progress report](#), which outlines the many improvements that are being made to enhance the training experience of doctors and improve their wellbeing.

To find out more about this programme of work, visit [The Enhancing Junior Doctors' Working Lives webpage](#) and read [HEE's news article](#).

Choose GP

The next round of GP specialty training applications opens from 28 July until 13 August 2020 (for a February 2021 start). To find out more, visit the [GP National Recruitment Office \(GP NRO\) website](#) that provides case studies, careers information, and FAQs. HEE has also developed a series of [Choosing General Practice films](#), and set up a ['Choose GP' Facebook page](#).

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 launched nearly 1.5 million times since it went live mid-March 2020. For more information about the COVID-19 programme, please visit the [e-LfH COVID-19 webpage](#).

Learning Hub

Since HEE's Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) team released the [Learning Hub](#) at the end of May 2020, over 500 resources have been contributed by the health and care workforce - many in response to the COVID-19.

The London Training Hubs are already utilising some of the features of the Learning Hub to achieve effective collaborative working across primary, secondary and social care; breaking down the limitations of inter-sector working by offering one central platform for sharing and discovering resources. To find out more, read the [TEL Learning Hub case study](#).

If you have any questions or would like to contribute your learning resources, please contact enquiries@learninghub.nhs.uk.

Supporting the wellbeing of the health and care workforce

Psychological First Aid training course now available

The Department of Health and Social Care has [announced](#) the [Psychological First Aid training course](#) developed by Public Health England, NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE/I), and HEE will be freely available for frontline staff and volunteers. This training course aims to equip staff and volunteers to provide support and recognise people at risk of distress and follows a globally recommended model for supporting people during emergencies, tailored to the specific challenges of COVID-19.

To access the training visit the [Future Learn website](#), or to find out more, read the recent [Psychological First Aid training news article](#).

Additional information and news

Consultation on the standards of proficiency for all professions on the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) register

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The [HCPC are seeking views on the proposed changes to the standards of proficiency](#) for each of the 15 professions they regulate.

To find out more about the consultation questions and more detail on the standards, the proposed changes, and the background to the review in the consultation documents, visit the [HCPC webpage](#).

HEE supports Learning Disability (LD) Week

This week is LD Week, and the theme is the importance of friendships in lockdown. On [@NHS HealthEdEng](#) Twitter, we have been demonstrating how our [LD work](#) ensures the learning disabilities workforce has the right education, skills, values, and knowledge they need to deliver and improve services. We have also shared a [short film about Matthew and his family](#), highlighting the importance of families working together with services.

Loneliness awareness week

This week is [Loneliness Awareness Week](#), hosted by the [Marmalade Trust](#). The Marmalade Trust works nationally to raise awareness of social issues such as loneliness and helps people to make new connections. The e-LfH team has made available a [Loneliness and Social Isolation programme](#), which is freely accessible and features evidence-based reports, guidance, fact sheets, and videos about how to support individuals and yourselves with loneliness.

BAME Apprenticeship Awards

HEE are supporters of the [BAME Apprenticeship Alliance](#) and [BAME Apprenticeship Awards](#). The awards celebrate talent and diversity and recognises British BAME Apprentices, their employers, and learning providers.

The deadline for nominations has extended until Friday 26 June 2020, and we encourage you to make your nominations for BAME apprentices to be put forward for the national shortlist. More information can be found on the [awards website](#).

NHS Virtual Pride

[NHSE/I LGBTQ+ Staff Network](#) is hosting the NHS Virtual Pride event on Friday 26 June, the day before Global Pride 2020.

Pride season is the highlight of the LGBTQ+ calendar, and with Pride events being cancelled this year due to COVID-19, NHSE/I are extending this celebration to the whole of the NHS, all NHS LGBTQ+ staff networks and all LGBTQ+ NHS staff and allies.

To find out more information, please follow [@VirtualNHSPride](#) on Twitter and use [#NHSVirtualPride](#).

South east regional updates

New Primary Care Dean appointed for Thames Valley and Wessex

We are delighted to announce that Dr Rachel Elliott has commenced the new post of Primary Care Dean across Thames Valley and Wessex following the recent external recruitment process. Rachel will lead on the development of primary care education and training with system partners and supporting the expansion in the number of GPs and other primary care professionals.

Rachel will also lead the next stage of developing Primary Care Training Hubs working closely with partners in the STPs/ICSs. Training Hubs are ideally positioned to enable “place-based” delivery of education, training, and workforce development of the NHS primary care workforce at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and all stages of an NHS professional’s career in primary care.

Rachel is a GP and has been the Primary Care Head of School in Wessex since September 2018 and interim Primary Care Dean for Wessex. Prior to this, Rachel held the post of Associate GP Dean for Portsmouth and Isle of Wight and has a long career in primary care education and training.

HEE SE will also be commencing recruitment to the two substantive Heads of School for Primary Care in both Thames Valley and Wessex.

Dr Michael Bannon, Postgraduate Dean - Thames Valley, and Dr Paul Sadler, Postgraduate Dean – Wessex are fully supportive of this new role and Rachel’s appointment to it, which will help ensure training and education is aligned to and enabling the changes to the way primary care is provided to patients.

Intellectual Disabilities programme reflection on LD Week

During LD week, the south east Intellectual Disabilities programme has taken the opportunity to reflect on their work and achievements since 2013.

The programme team says:

“It would be amazing to be able to say that life has improved for people with a learning disability and/or autism since we started, however, there is still a long way to go before some of the most vulnerable members of our society are treated with respect, expertise, and compassion throughout their lives, and this is why our programme is as important as it has ever been.

Whilst the programme currently works across the south east region, the projects we deliver are of importance to the whole of the health and care workforce. Some of the work that we have undertaken has also been national and includes the production of [the first Core Capabilities Framework for Supporting Autistic People](#)”.

The programme has also supported [44 workforce pilot projects](#), over half of which have completed and their full reports, including lessons learnt and tools are now freely available.

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If you have any queries about the programmes work or you would like to get involved, please contact Rhona Savy Westrip, Programme Manager via email, rhona.westrip@hee.nhs.uk. You can also visit the team's [blog](#) and follow them on Twitter via [@HEE_SouthID](#).

KSS Hub

KSS staff continue to work remotely, they are well equipped and are available on email, 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 on the [PGMDE team's website](#). The Healthcare Education Team (HET) can be contacted for any medical and dental trainee enquires via the [support portal](#) in the first instance. Trainees should be aware that the HET team are working hard 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 has 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.

GP trainer accreditation approvals process

The KSS Quality team work closely with the KSS Primary Care team to facilitate GP trainer accreditation approvals. A streamlined version of the approvals process has been agreed for the duration of the COVID-19 response. The team has also facilitated the transition from on-site to virtual visits for both trainer and Clinical Learning Environment approvals.

We are pleased that the implementation of this amended process in April 2020 has gone well and that we are on course to process and approve around 51 new GP Supervisors before the trainee rotation in August 2020.

For any queries about the approvals process, email primarycare.kssquality@hee.nhs.uk.

If you are interested in completing either the Clinical or Educational Supervisors course to become an accredited GP trainer, email GPEducatorPathway.KSS@hee.nhs.uk.

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 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 email, 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 continues to ensure that trainees, educators, and pharmacy leads are kept informed of any changes to the programme of activity in the short term. There is a dedicated [Pharmacy page on the HEE website](#). The South pharmacy team can be contacted via Pharmacy.South@hee.nhs.uk.

Thames Valley Hub

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

Quality

Trainees will continue to be able to report any concerns directly as per the [Thames Valley escalating concerns process](#). 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 continues to ensure that trainees, educators, and pharmacy leads are kept informed of any changes to the programme of activity in the short term. There

is a dedicated [Pharmacy page on the HEE website](#). The South pharmacy team can be contacted via Pharmacy.South@hee.nhs.uk.

Thank you for reading and further information:

By following [@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 SouthEastRegionalTeam@hee.nhs.uk.

Useful resources:

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

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

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

UK Government: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

General Medical Council – information and support news: <https://www.gmc-uk.org/news/news-archive/COVID-19-information-and-advice>

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

Health and Care Professions Council: <https://www.hcpc-uk.org/registrants/updates/2020/how-we-will-continue-to-regulate-in-light-of-novel-COVID-19/>

Nursing and Midwifery Council: <https://www.nmc.org.uk/news/news-and-updates/how-we-will-continue-to-regulate-in-light-of-novel-COVID-19/>

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

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

Learning Hub: <https://learninghub.nhs.uk>
