



**University of  
Nottingham**

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# **School of Medicine:**

**Medicine Course Agreement –  
Academic Year 2023-24**



## Introduction

Congratulations on your acceptance into University of Nottingham School of Medicine. We are delighted to welcome you to our institution, where you will embark on a transformative journey towards becoming compassionate and competent healthcare professionals.

We are committed to providing you with the highest standards of medical education, and it is our duty to work in partnership with you to uphold the principles of professionalism and good medical practice, as outlined by the General Medical Council (GMC) in their guidance for students on "[Good Medical Practice](#)" (GMC, 2021).

This Medicine Course Agreement documents the expectations and responsibilities for the University of Nottingham, the School of Medicine and its medical students. It is important that you have a clear understanding of the duties and expectations that studying a degree in medicine at our university entails and what will be expected of you when you qualify (please see [Duties of a Doctor](#)).

## Responsibilities of you as a Medical Student at the University of Nottingham

You have chosen to pursue a career in medicine and also chosen to study medicine at the University of Nottingham. Whenever possible, we will provide flexibility in the way you study to suit your needs but there are certain elements of the programme and certain rules and regulations where the room for flexibility is limited by external agencies, such as the General Medical Council (GMC). These agencies require us to enable students to demonstrate the qualities that are essential for them to perform as competent and professional doctors throughout their course and on qualification.

These requirements include demonstrating competence in managing:

- [Knowledge, Skills, and Attributes](#)
- [Character](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Interpersonal Attributes / Social Attributes / Cultural Awareness](#)
- [Attendance](#)

The School of Medicine has established [fitness to practice procedures](#) specified in the University of Nottingham (UoN) Quality Manual to deal with serious concerns when students fail to meet their professional obligations.

As a medical student you are studying for both a university degree and a professional qualification. Consequently, you are expected to comply with University, GMC, and other national guidelines regarding conduct. By taking on a career in medicine, medical students are accepting a lifestyle that is very different from that of other students and it is important to know that your life will be impacted both while you are on the undergraduate programme,



when you take on your training post and beyond. For example, you may have to move around the country to get the job you want and you will work unusual hours such as nights or “on call”. Life as a medical student and as a medic is different to other academic programmes of study and careers and we expect our students to have considered this before accepting to study on the BMBS Programme and entering the field of medicine.

An important feature of the Nottingham BMBS Programme is that you are educated and train in the NHS and in order to get the most out of your learning opportunities we expect you to work and study in the same sort of way as you will be working throughout your career. Medicine is a full-time course and to get the best out of the Programme students will need to travel to hospitals and GP surgeries throughout Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. By accepting a place on our programme, students are accepting our rules and regulations and the structure of our course.

Very occasionally students find that after they join our course, their situation changes in a way that makes it important they are based at a specific geographical location for their clinical learning. These are called “mitigating circumstances”. We understand that mitigating circumstances can occur and similar criteria for deciding if the reasons warrant special treatment as those used by the UK Foundation Programme Office, and Medical Schools Council, who are responsible for allocating you to your first job as a qualified doctor. By using the similar rules we ensure our policies are consistent with those that will apply once you have graduated.

## Behaviours expected of our Medical Students

Guidance is given in the joint General Medical Council (GMC) and Medical Schools Council publication [Professional behaviour and fitness to practise](#) about how the School of Medicine will handle concerns about a medical student's performance, health or conduct.

You should read the following key background documents which form the basis of this document:

- The GMC's Guidance in '[Achieving Good Medical Practice \(2016\)](#)'
- The GMC's guidance in '[Promoting excellence: standards for medical education and training](#)'
- The Medical Schools Council's guidance on [health clearance for medical students](#)
- University of Nottingham [code of discipline](#)
- UoN Medical School document on '[Professional values, behaviour, health and entry into Medicine](#)'
- UoN Medical School's '[Social Media Policy](#)'
- UoN Medical School document '[Medical Student Dress Code](#)'



## Responsibilities of the School of Medicine

The responsibilities of the School of Medicine are to provide you with education, training and facilities through which you can achieve an undergraduate medical qualification.

The School of Medicine will comply with the GMC's standards in 'Promoting Excellence: standards for medical education and training' ['Promoting excellence: standards for medical education and training'](#)

The School of Medicine will comply with the quality assurance processes of the University of Nottingham and the GMC.

The School of Medicine will inform students within a reasonable time period of any substantial changes to the curriculum, structure of the programme and any other significant alterations other than minor timetabling changes, which will affect the student.

## Student Declaration

### Abiding by the Terms of the Medical Course Agreement

Students for entry medical courses at the University of Nottingham should be aware that by accepting an offer of a place and registering they are agreeing to abide by the terms of this Agreement.

You should keep a copy of this Agreement and the declaration for your own records.

To sign this agreement, [please complete the online form.](#)