

Essential Information for Young Visitor Applicants

The Young Visitors Programme is an initiative to offer short taster placements in the different clinical areas of GOSH to students applying for medicine at university. This programme is suitable for Year 12 and 13 students (i.e. sixth form students post GCSE) and runs throughout the year, offering 1 to 5 day placements in the speciality of the student's choice, dependent upon availability of places and supervising staff. The purpose of the programme is to give an idea of what it is like to work in the NHS by shadowing clinical and nursing staff; this is not work experience as there is no hands on work. Students are supervised at all times during this placement.

We receive a high demand for places and cannot accommodate every request we receive. Places are open to all who meet the criteria and are allocated on a chronological basis, taking into consideration date of receipt and requested placement date. Please be aware there will be occasions when we have to close to applications early during popular periods once sufficient numbers have been received. It is therefore advisable that you submit your application as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

Completed applications **must** be submitted electronically to Young.Visitors@gosh.nhs.uk in either a word document or PDF format, otherwise we may not be able to process your application due to the NHS security and firewall protection software. Please do not send hard copies through the post.

Due to the large number of applications we receive, it is not possible to acknowledge receipt of completed application forms. Likewise incomplete application forms will not be processed or acknowledged - it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all sections of the form are completed, including the specific date you wish to attend (not just the month).

We do not respond to individual emails or telephone calls from parents requesting updates on applications. Only successful applications will be contacted by email. If you have not received a response six weeks prior to your placement date, you should assume that we cannot offer you a place.

The duration of the placements offered through our service are normally structured around one week experience. Some specialities feel it is sufficient to offer either 1 or 2 days only. The placement duration is predetermined by the departments and is non-negotiable. Placement requests for alternative configuration/duration placements e.g. weekly slots, evenings, weekends, long-term placements, etc, cannot be accommodated. If a Bank Holiday falls within your allocated placement, you should not attend on that day.

The Trust places considerable importance on the need for attention to Health and Safety at Work. Students have the responsibility to acquaint themselves with the safety rules of the work place, to follow these rules and make use of facilities and equipment provided for your safety. It is essential that all accidents, however minor are reported. The Trust will also expect you to observe other rules and regulations governing the workplace which are drawn to your attention. Please note that there is a no smoking policy covering the whole working environment and that there are security arrangements applicable to most locations. The Trust will not pay for meals or travel expenses.

Within the daily work of the hospital, you may be exposed to distressing situations. You may also see procedures or conditions which you will find upsetting. Although you will not directly be having physical contact with patients you may also see bodily fluids such as urine, faeces, blood or vomit.