



WORK INSPIRATION – Medicine Careers

To help your students explore a range of careers and use resources that will help them assess their skills and abilities.

Explore the roles of those staff who are working to save us and care for us in the community.

ASPIRING MEDICS

[Royal Society of Medicine Careers page](#) is vital for aspiring medics and link with [The Medic Portal](#).

'Virtual' Medical Work Experience

- **Observe GP** This is a virtual work experience for aspiring medics aged 16+. It is a free interactive [video platform](#) providing insights into the role of a GP, created by the **Royal College of General Practitioners** (RCGP). Watch a seven-minute [teacher webinar](#) introducing the Observe GP platform that will suit students aged 16+ who are aspiring medics.

- **Brighton & Sussex Medical School (BCMS)** [Brighton & Sussex Medical School](#) virtual work experience programme for those looking to apply to medical school. Here is an [all you need to know](#) about the programme. Before doing this programme as it will take some time and commitment, read this useful [review](#). Follow on [Twitter](#) for updates on activities and events.
- **Dundee's Widening Access to Medical School Society (DWAMSS)** wants to make sure that every person thinking of applying to study medicine has someone to ask about what it is really like, regardless of their background. During the school year, they will run 'Chat With A Medical Student' sessions online. To find out more, follow them on [Twitter](#)

Work Inspiration
An initiative of



The Responsible
Business Network
Northern Ireland

- **British Medical Association (BMA)** have a recording of a panel of medics sharing insights to inspire the next generation of doctors. [Making it in medicine: insight into studying and working in the medical field. \(17 Sept. 2021\)](#)
- **In2MedSchool** is a group of medical students and doctors supporting the next generation of aspiring medics from underprivileged backgrounds in the UK. [Follow on Twitter](#) to keep up to date on events and explore their [recorded content on YouTube](#). They also run several live events on [Instagram](#).
- The **General Medical Council (GMC)** and **NHS England** have jointly created '[Patient Journey to GP practice](#)' a virtual reality app, where you follow Mrs Thomas and her son Jack in their encounters with a receptionist, doctor, nurse and pharmacist in an interactive 360° video VR app. [Watch this video](#) to find out more.
- **NEW Medic Mentor** – If you want to know What it's like to work Critical and Intensive Care? [Complete this free work experience.](#)

General Work Experience

- **Medic Portal** [blog](#) on best work experience alternatives if work experience is unable to occur
- **Medical Schools Council** [Medical Schools Council](#) has a comprehensive '[go to](#)' page with information and downloads for teachers and students and has [guidance](#) and a [video](#) for gaining relevant experience in a time of COVID. **NEW** – further recordings for teachers – [Work Experience: Teacher and Careers Adviser webinar \(June 2022\)](#)
- **Medify** Explore all you need to know about [medical and dental work experience](#) and as you scroll down the page, they have a really useful section on what work experience each University is looking for.

- **Education Projects** website has a range of work experience (*NB: there is a cost*). The options for students considering medicine are:
 - Live online [Ward Round](#) for students aged 15+ (there is a cost)
 - Live online [A&E work experience](#) for students aged 15+ (there is a cost)
 - Online practical skills course – [Clinical Skills](#) for students aged 15+ (there is a cost)
 - They have some *free* resources, a selection of [articles](#) and their [YouTube channel](#)
- **British Medical Association** have some [advice and resources](#) for students
- [Doctalk](#) is a definitive guide on the different medical work experience opportunities that are on offer in 2021.

Medicine – University Related

- **Swot Up** How to [prepare](#) for medical interviews
- **What Uni** [Guide](#) to Medicine Degrees and a [list](#) of Medicine Degrees
- **Medical Schools Council** [A-Z list](#) of medical schools **NEW** [Medical School Entry Requirements for 2024](#)
- **UCAT** University Clinical Aptitude Test [Update](#) and you can [Follow on Twitter](#) for updates
- **Birmingham Widening Access to Medical Sciences** How to [prepare for medical applications](#) and a blog series on [UCAT: Preparation and Practice](#)
- **Medic Mind** have a UCAT [preparation guide](#) and full [section on UCAT](#)
- **Medic Portal** [How](#) will universities use your UCAT score and other [useful information](#)
- **Medical Schools Application Guide** [blog section](#) has articles about interviews, personal statements and more. A [free online](#) medical interview course.

- **Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing** explore their **BMAT** [update](#) page for Biomedical Admissions Test and dates information is [here](#).
- **Medic Portal** have a [guide on BMAT](#) and a section on [how](#) universities use your BMAT score
- **Medical Schools Council** [YouTube channel](#) have recorded talks on applying to medicine and careers talks. A selection of the videos include:
 - Getting Into Medicine [talk](#) (April 2021)
 - Applicant Webinar: Medical School Interviews [talk](#) (February 2021)
- **Medical Schools Council** have created a [website](#) to help potential applicants to medical school prepare for the interview and familiarise themselves with what will happen on the day. This is part of its commitment to providing clear and comprehensive information on the application process to medicine and comes directly from admissions staff in UK medical schools.
- **Brighton and Sussex Medical School** blog [My Route into Medical School and failing my A-Levels was the best thing that happened to me](#), a blog on [Preparing for the UCAT](#) and [Beginning your journey at University](#): what to bring and where to start. **NEW** – [Preparing for a Medical School Interview](#), advice from Brighton & Sussex students (Dec 2022)

Resources for medical applications

- **Medicine Answered** A [useful resource](#) with links for those completing a medical application and an [example](#) of a medical personal statement
- **QUB Medicine** [Example of MMIs](#)
- **Medic Portal** [Medicine Personal Statement webinars](#) (there is a cost) and they have a [quick guide](#) to writing a personal statement and an [10 Step Checklist](#). They suggest there are [3 key points](#) your personal statement should focus on.

- **NEW** Find out about what sort of questions you may be asked at interview in [this article](#). **NEW** - Worth regularly checking their '[blog](#)' for useful resources and articles
- **Medical Schools Council** [video](#) (Oct. 2019) - heads of admissions from UK medical schools answer questions on personal statements.
- **Arun Kiru**, a junior doctor working in London who graduated from Cambridge University, has helped 100s of students over the last 10 years. [Here](#) he talks about personal statements

Medicine Twitter Accounts to follow

- **QUB swot UP** https://twitter.com/swot_UP run sessions for applicants and share tips
- **Becoming a Dr** <https://twitter.com/BecomingaDr> or on Instagram <http://instagram.com/becomingadr>
- **Medic Portal** <https://twitter.com/themedicportal>
- **UK Med Schools** <https://twitter.com/ukmedschools>
- **Generation Medics** <https://twitter.com/GenMedX>
- **Medic Mentor** <https://twitter.com/MedicMentor1> for aspiring healthcare students & professionals. They run a number of free programmes so keep up to date for events.
- **Inside Scan** Aqeel, a past pupil of Bangor Grammar is at medical school at King's College London. He has his own [YouTube channel](#) to try and help prospective medical students navigate through what seems like a long and complicated application process to get into medical school and becoming a doctor. Follow on [Twitter](#).
- Wentin Chen, a medical student at the University of Birmingham co-founded an organisation called **AspireMED** alongside two peers. They organised

a 'getting into medical school' conference (Aug. 2020). Wentin, is a past pupil of Methodist College (as is her co-founder sister Jun) and she participated in the Belfast Trust Work Inspiration programme. Watch [here](#) and conference details are on the Work Inspiration [website](#). **New** – a recording from their [Interview Crash course \(Dec 2021\)](#). To get access to their free content and events, [follow on Instagram](#).

Expand medical career knowledge

- **BBC Junior Doctors** is a documentary series following the journey of newly qualified medics as they start working on hospital wards
- **Arun Kiru**, is a junior doctor working in London who graduated from **Cambridge University**. He has helped 100s of students over the last 10 years. Follow his [YouTube channel](#) for a selection of career videos and his [day in the life of an eye surgeon](#) and [day in the life .. back in the operating theatre](#)
- **Medical Mavericks** selection of [videos](#)
- **Netflix** have 3 medical [docuseries](#) to watch
- **The Medic Portal** recommended [reads](#) for aspiring medics and further [lockdown](#) reads
- **Belfast Health and Social Care Trust** Read the [diary of Mr Niall Eames](#), who is the Clinical Director and Consultant Spinal Surgeon, describing his time in the Nightingale Hospital in Belfast as he worked in a COVID-19 ward. Meet some members of the Cardiothoracic Surgery team in this short [video](#)
- The **General Medical Council (GMC)** have a useful resource for students for interviews, MMIs or understanding scenarios they may be faced with - an interactive online **ethics game**. '[Good medical practice in action](#)' is full of case studies that puts you in the shoes of a doctor.
- **Prospects** website - [find out a bit more](#) about a medical degree on and some of the specialisms
- **Royal College of Surgeons of England** in National Careers Week 2019, developed [Humans of Surgery](#), an opportunity for students to read personal stories. An overview of the various [surgical specialties](#).
- **BBC Two** programme [Surgeons: At the End of Life](#). The surgeons of **Addenbrooke's** and **Royal Papworth** hospitals undertake some of the most complex operations in the world.
- **BBC iPlayer** [Between Life and Death](#) documentary follows doctors who can now interrupt, and even reverse, the process of death. Filmed over six months in the brain injury unit in **Addenbrooke's Hospital**, it is the journey of a man who, by only moving his eyes, is eventually asked if he wants to live or die. Two other families are also plunged into the most ethically difficult decision in modern medicine. (May contain upsetting scenes)
- **BBC Bitesize** careers video [How to become an Air Ambulance Doctor](#), a HEMS (Helicopter Emergency Medical Service) doctor
- **Channel 4 - 24 Hours in A&E** Cameras [film in some of Britain's busiest A&E departments](#)
- **Channel 5 – GPs: Behind Closed Doors** - a fascinating observational [documentary series](#) that takes viewers into the private world of a local GP surgery moves to a new location.
- **Just A GP** film aiming to change the language and perception around General Practice within the NHS. [Watch it](#) - No GP is 'Just a GP'.
- **British Medical Association** advice from doctors [Dear Medical Student](#)
- **BBC NI Newsline** [behind the scenes](#) at the **Belfast Health and Social Care Trust** Belfast City Hospital ICU (**Sept. 2021**)
- **Southern Health and Social Care Trust** has produced a [series of podcasts](#) "A Day in my

Shoes". [Episode 13](#), focuses on a Consultant Psychiatrist who works with addiction and [episode 3](#), focuses on a Paediatrician.

- **The Royal College of Paediatrics and Health** whilst much of the content may be for trainee Doctors, it [gives an insight](#) into this as a specialty for the future

Selection of Career Videos

- **You Can Be a Doctor** have a range of videos:
 - Consultant Anaesthetist in **Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow**. A [day in the life](#) of an anaesthetist working within obstetrics
 - Hear from a [junior doctor working in Glasgow in palliative care](#), in **Marie Curie Hospice** during COVID-19. She discusses how palliative care can be different from other medical specialties and what they've learnt from their time there.
 - Dr Hazel Miller is a [consultant working in Glasgow who cares for elderly people](#). In this video we see how different grades of doctors work together to coordinate patient care, meet the other hospital staff members who help get our patients back on their feet, and talk about how best to manage patients with complex health needs.
 - Dr Colin Geddes is a [consultant nephrologist](#) working in Glasgow. In this video we are given snapshots of his working life over the course of two weeks. We'll hear about the working life of a consultant, how to adjust management plans to best care for patients, and what has been brought in for the Friday baking rota!
- **Explore the experiences** of 2 junior doctors, Dr Nat Quail and Dr Thalia Massa who are junior doctors working in Glasgow. In this video they talk us through some of their experiences while working on the **Acute Receiving Unit (ARU)** at a city hospital.
- Dr Hannah McManus is a junior doctor currently working in Edinburgh in **NHS Lothian** at the new children's hospital. [In this video Hannah takes us along for her nights shifts](#) so we can see what jobs you might be asked to do when you're covering the wards at night! Learn how to take blood tests from small children and about how inhalers are used in children in hospital!
- Dr Mark Tait is an anaesthetic trainee working in **Victoria Hospital Kirkcaldy**. [In this video we see how Mark gets in the mindset for nights, discuss some cases, and learn about the arrest trolley](#) - a vital piece of emergency equipment! We also get a tour of the anaesthetic room/theatre as well as being treated to a lovely time-lapse of the journey from Edinburgh to Kirkcaldy.
- **Medical Schools Council YouTube channel** have recorded careers talks. This includes:
 - Medicine Careers – Radiology and Pathology [talk \(February 2021\)](#)
- **Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health** have a selection of resources on for those considering a career in paediatrics.
 - Careers in Paediatrics, [recording of a webinar from June 2020](#)
 - Eight doctors [share their motivation](#) for choosing this speciality
 - [Three young people ask paediatricians](#) what got them into this career
 - Paediatricians [answer career questions](#)

SPOTLIGHT ON Career as a Pathologist

- **The Royal College of Pathologists** [What](#) is Pathology? Explore the range of [careers in Pathology](#). [Read more](#) about the explanation of 'medical' careers, many pathologists begin their careers as medically qualified doctors, then go on to specialise in a particular area of diagnosis.
- **The Royal College of Pathologists** [YouTube channel](#) has a selection of videos:
 - [Careers Talk by Dr Rachel Liebmann](#), she is a Histopathologist
 - A Living Autopsy – What Happens During an Autopsy? [Dr Suzy Lishman, Consultant Histopathologist](#) explains how they work through the different sections and organs of the body to determine the cause of death.
 - A selection of [Interviews with Pathologists](#)
 - A brief outline of the [roles within Pathology](#)
 - The journey of a [biopsy](#)
 - The journey of a [blood sample](#)
- [Explore](#) the career on the **Prospects** website
- **Medical Schools Council** have a Radiography and Pathology careers [talk](#) (February 2021)
- Did you know the **Belfast Health and Social Care Trust** has over 700 Lab staff? Find out about the work they carry out [here](#).
- **Belfast Live** article - meet the aspiring young [Pathologists, based at Antrim Area Hospital](#) making a vital contribution to healthcare
- **NEW** For National Pathology Week - a series of Careers Talks from **Royal College of Pathologists**. Students 'meet' clinical scientists and pathologists (**November 2021**):
 - [3 November 2021](#) Speakers are Dr Veronica Moyo and Dr Varuni Fernando, both histopathologists, and Dr Mahesh Sharma, who is a haematologist
 - [5 November 2021](#) Speakers are **pathologists** Dr Alex Willsher, Dr Hamed Sharaf, and Dr Zoe Rivers
 - [10 November 2021](#) Speakers are **histopathology** fellow Dr Alex Willsher, **medical microbiologist**, Dr Farah Shahi and **haematologist**, Dr Mahesh Sharma
 - [12 November 2021](#) Speakers are **histopathology trainee** Dr Sarah Ruane, **infection doctor**, Dr Hamed Sharaf, and **medical microbiologist** Dr Farah Shahi
 - [17 November 2021](#) Speakers are **histopathology consultant**, Dr Lucy Melly, **chemical pathology trainee**, Dr Jessica Johnson and **histopathology trainee**, Dr Badia Ahmed
 - [19 November 2021](#) Speakers all work in **histopathology**: Dr Stephanie Edwards, Dr Emma Leeman and Dr Lee Seung Hyun.
 - **NEW** - May 2023 - Dr Lizzie Burns [asks histopathologist Dr Steph Edwards about her career](#) and what top tips she would give to those who are interested in pursuing a career in a similar area.
- Explore the Work Inspiration [Pathology Careers Resource](#) for more on a Pathology career

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To find out more about our Work Inspiration programme, please contact joanne.mehaffy@bitcni.org.uk, or visit www.bitcni.org.uk/programmes/work-inspiration/ or www.workinspiration-ni.com