MANCHESTER 1824
The University of Manchester

2026-27 Early Clinical Experience

What is it?

A pair of students attend Early Clinical Experience (ECE) visits to General Practices in Year 1 and 2.

Year 1 and 2 students now have the opportunity to spend a full day at a GP practice which will be a 6 hour visit to the practice.

These visits are a fantastic opportunity to show students real life general practice outside the simulated environments they learn in.

ECE visits provide a 'taster' of GP and community primary care work e.g. exploring why patients might come to their GP. And for students, the opportunity to take part in consultations in an authentic environment under supervision.

Some students will not have considered a career in General Practice so meeting enthusiastic role models early in their student journey can make a real impact on their ideas about their future speciality choice.

What do I have to do?

ECE GP visits provide students with opportunities to meet patients and staff in a General Practice setting.

Before the visit you will familiarise yourself with the ECE tutor guide. You'll need to ensure reception staff are expecting students and finalise any plans for the students arrival and time with you.

At the start of the session, students will need an induction and then they will be able to observe the GP consulting with opportunities to speak with patients under supervision. The students also have the opportunity to meet with some of the wider practice team and find out about their roles.

With the GP tutor, students learn about and understand patients' ideas, concerns and expectations and how the GP seeks to address these.

Towards the end of the ECE visit, the GP tutor needs to make sure students get an adequate debrief of their ECE experience.

What support will I get?

Prime GP training events run throughout the year—details available on the MBChB community website:

https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/mbchb-community-team/training/

Ongoing support available from the MBChB Community team. Each teaching practice is allocated a named locality academic lead and administrator—details are on the MBChB Community team website:

https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/mbchb-community-team/

When?

Year 1 placements will take place between Feb - May 2027

Year 2 placements will take place between Sep - Dec 2026. You fill in a form choosing as many or as few dates as you want for students to attend.

How much?

Year 1— £272 per pair of students per full day

Year 2— £300 per pair of students per full day

There is a requirement for Year 2 students to check (under supervision) patient observations such as BP, pulse, temperature, respiratory rate and oxygen saturations for at least four stable and well patients ordinarily attending the practice.

Want to find out more?

Contact us directly:
sms.communityenquiries@manchester.ac.uk

MBChB community team website:

https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/mbchb-community-team/early-clinical-experience-ece/

Your named Locality Academic Lead:

https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/mbchb-community-team/local-contact-information/

Existing Clinical Placement Supervisors can also find guidance, CPD and resources on the 1MedLearn Staff Pages:

http://www.onemedlearn.manchester.ac.uk/

N.B. You will need to have a 1Med log in to access this information.

Student feedback quote:

"I observed urgent appointments with the GP which really enhanced my learning experience as I saw a wide variety of illnesses and concerns. The GP made a lot of effort to ensure I had the opportunity to speak about ideas, concerns and expectations with patients."