MBChB Programme Agreement

Academic Year 2026/27

Any queries related to this document should be sent to:
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See: Contacts | MBChB Programme Handbook 2025/26 (manchester.ac.uk)

1. Introduction

This MBChB Programme Agreement documents the expectations and responsibilities for the University of Manchester, the Division of Medical Education and its students. It is important that you have a clear understanding of the duties and expectations that studying for a degree in medicine at this University entails. This Agreement has three main sections:

Section 2:	Your responsibilities and expectations of you as a medical student
Section 3:	The responsibilities of the MBChB Programme
Section 4:	Declaration

All applicants who are offered a place on the 5 Year MBChB Programme, or on the Graduate Entry Medicine (4 year) Programme will be sent a copy of this Agreement before the start of academic studies in Year 1.
Foundation Year students will be sent a copy before the start of the Foundation Year.
Students transferring from other universities or Programmes in Year 3 of the 5 Year MBChB Programme will also be sent a copy of the Agreement before the start of the academic year.
All new Foundation Year, Year 1 and Year 3 students will be required to acknowledge the declaration before they commence their studies. This is done by completing registration.

2. Your Responsibilities and Expectations of You as a Medical Student

You have chosen to pursue a career in medicine and chosen to study medicine at the University of Manchester. The Manchester MBChB Programme has a flexible studying and educational framework to enable all students to undertake their studies. There are, however, 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), and the need for students to demonstrate those qualities is essential for them to perform as doctors. These are known as Programme Competencies.

Programme Competencies include:

- Knowledge, Skills and Attributes
- Character
- Health

- Interpersonal Attributes / Social Attributes / Cultural Awareness
- Attendance

Knowledge, Skills and Attributes

MBChB students at Manchester must meet the academic requirements of the Programme, so that they can prove they have the knowledge needed to function safely as a doctor.

Character

MBChB students at Manchester must demonstrate their suitability to enter the medical profession by behaving in an appropriate manner both within and away from the learning environment.

Health

MBChB students at Manchester must be able to progress through their medical studies in a timely manner. In addition, they must be able to interact appropriately with all patients and staff. If ill-health prevents either satisfactory progress or suitable interactions, students must declare the medical problem or be prepared to accept that others may draw their ill-health to the University's attention. Students must cooperate with any advice received from Occupational Health.

Interpersonal & Social Attributes

MBChB students at Manchester must communicate effectively with patients, families, peers, colleagues and other health care professionals; work with others effectively and take directions; manage their time in terms of studies and other demands (e.g. submitting assignments and attending/securing necessary appointments); show respect for the dignity of every person they meet; and recognise cultural and spiritual issues and respond respectfully.

Effective communication also means that it is your responsibility and in your best interests to check your University emails and 1Med notifications on a daily basis during term times and regularly during holiday periods for important information relating to the Programme. Failure to do so will be considered unprofessional and cannot be used as mitigation.

Attendance and punctuality

The GMC has set a requirement that to qualify as a doctor you need to have trained for a specified number of hours across your medical school and F1 years. To achieve this requires full attendance of the course. There is an absolute minimum attendance of 80% for each component of the Programme, acceptable only where valid and approved mitigation exists. MBChB students at Manchester must therefore make every attempt to attend all their teaching at the scheduled times. They must inform the

University of any disability or ill-health that could affect their ability to complete any component or activity within the Programme.

Expectations of You as a Medical Student

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 a job or to move up the ladder 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 MBChB Programme and entering the field of medicine.

An important feature of the Manchester MBChB 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 a range of different hospitals and GP surgeries. Students need to recognise that whilst there are some bursaries available to help towards travel costs in Years 3-5, students will incur travel costs and additional time to travel to placements. Some placements can be distant and in those circumstances a bursary or accommodation may be provided by the clinical education campus (CEC). By accepting a place on the MBChB at Manchester, students are accepting our rules and regulations and the structure of our Programme. This includes accepting that for Years 3-5 we will be allocating students to one of our four clinical education campuses. These are Manchester (Oxford Road/Wythenshawe), Salford or Preston - and each of their associated district hospitals as well as Community placements, some of which can be more distant to the CEC/Manchester.

Very occasionally students find that after they join the MBChB Programme at Manchester their situation changes in a way that makes it important, they are based at a specific sector teaching hospital. These are called "extenuating circumstances".

Where students have extenuating circumstances (as detailed in the *Policy on Allocation to Clinical Education Campus in Years 3-5 Academic Year 2026-27*) which make it very difficult to attend one or more of the clinical education campuses, the MBChB Programme will take this into consideration where possible. All students will be asked to complete an allocation form giving them an opportunity to state if there are any extenuating circumstances, as detailed in the Policy.

For further information of what is expected of you as a medical student, please refer to the following:

2.1 The University of Manchester's Student Charter

http://www.yoursay.manchester.ac.uk/student-charter/

This Charter provides an overview of the Manchester experience and refers to regulations, policies and procedures at the University; it is not a detailed personal agreement or contract.

2.2 The GMC's guidance in:

2.2.1 '*Professional Behaviour and Fitness to Practice: guidance for medical schools and their students'*

http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/professional_behaviour.asp

This guidance outlines the specific responsibilities of medical students which differ in a number of ways from the responsibilities of students on other university Programmes.

2.2.2 'Achieving Good Medical Practice: Guidance for Medical Students

http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/achieving_good_medical_practice.asp

These are the standards for qualified doctors which you must uphold on graduation. Although the responsibilities of medical students are recognised to be different from those of qualified doctors, the GMC has indicated clearly that medical students must learn to behave appropriately, so that they are accustomed to the highest standards of integrity, professional behaviour and practice on qualification.

2.3 The MBChB Programme Handbook

The Programme Handbook will be made to view once you have completed online University registration for the Programme, via the link below. The Handbook includes specific regulations, requirements and procedures about teaching, learning and assessments throughout the MBChB Programme.

www.mbchbhandbook.manchester.ac.uk

2.4 Faculty of Medicine, Biology and Health Sciences rules and regulations, including:

2.4.1 Communication and Dress Code

2.4.2 Social Networking

2.4.3 Misuse of Non-Prescription Drugs and Alcohol

www.mbchbhandbook.manchester.ac.uk/policies-guidance

2.5 Regulations, requirements and policies in the health care services where you have placements. These will be provided to you by our clinical placement organisers.

Serious and/or persistent failure to meet these expectations will result in action being taken through the School of Medical Sciences/Faculty of Biology Medicine and Health Fitness to Practice procedures and/or the University of Manchester's student disciplinary procedures. You will also be required to confirm your own fitness to practice on graduation before being granted provisional GMC registration.

3. The Responsibilities of the MBChB Programme

The responsibilities of the MBChB Programme at Manchester are to provide you with education, training and facilities through which you can achieve an undergraduate medical qualification.

3.1 The MBChB Programme will comply with the GMC's standards in 'Outcomes for Graduates' and in '*Promoting Excellence: standards for medical education and training' https://www.gmc-uk.org/education/standards-guidance-and-curricula/standards-and-outcomes/outcomes-for-graduates*
http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/standards.asp

3.2 The MBChB Programme will comply with the quality assurance processes of the University of Manchester and the GMC.

3.3 The MBChB Programme 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.

4. Student Declaration

Abiding by the Terms of this MBChB Programme Agreement

Students for entry to the MBChB Programme at Manchester 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.

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