



BSc (Hons) Oral Health Sciences

Ethical Code of Conduct

Throughout the four years of Oral Health Sciences (OHS), you will be asked to consider the ethical aspects of dental practice so that when you graduate, you will have a realistic appreciation of the ethical dimensions underlying all types of dental practice. The sixteen principles in the Code define a standard which is expected of all University of Edinburgh OHS students, and informs you of personal and professional conduct and attitudes which should be employed in your interaction with patients, staff and fellow students.

This ethical code has been approved by the Edinburgh Medical School and the appropriate University Committees. It defines a standard which is expected of all University of Edinburgh OHS and medical students. It also informs the deliberations of the College Fitness to Practise Committee. The student ethical code of conduct should also be taken into account when considering Fitness to Practise issues.

As a student of Oral Health Sciences at the University of Edinburgh you will be asked to read and confirm you have understood the the following ethical code. Students will be asked to sign this Ethical Code of Conduct every year and a copy will be kept on their individual student file.

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| 1. | In the course of my involvement in patient care, I will ensure that the safety and welfare of the patient are my primary concern. I will treat all patients with care, politeness and consideration, irrespective of their lifestyle, culture, beliefs, race, colour, gender, sexuality, age, educational background, social status, or perceived economic worth. |
| 2. | I will respect the dignity and privacy of patients and relatives. I will learn to communicate with them effectively. |
| 3. | I will recognise the limits of my competence, and not undertake clinical practice without appropriate authority and supervision. |
| 4. | I will not abuse my status as a student of BSc Oral Health Sciences. |

5.	I will conduct myself at all times in a professional manner, and ensure that my behaviour, appearance and personal hygiene are appropriate to the professional environment in which I am educated, taking account of institutional dress codes. I will wear appropriate identification. I will always make clear to patients, relatives and staff that I am a student, not a qualified dental hygienist-therapist.
6.	I will ensure that my personal beliefs do not prejudice my education and my dealings with patients.
7.	I will learn to function effectively alongside others in a team. I will respect students and practitioners in other disciplines. Where necessary, I will act to protect patients from risk of harm posed by the conduct, performance or health of another student or member of staff.
8.	I will at all times respect and protect confidential information, including patient records.
9.	I will be honest and trustworthy in my personal and professional life.
10.	I will inform the Edinburgh Medical School Office of any criminal proceedings or convictions to which I am subject while I am matriculated as a student of the University of Edinburgh.
11.	I will accept appropriate responsibility for my own learning within the academic environment.
12.	I will attend scheduled teaching and learning activities unless prevented by valid cause. I will complete the specified schedule of work for each course in a timely manner.
13.	I will ensure that all submitted work is my own unless clearly stated otherwise, and I will make myself aware of the University of Edinburgh policy on plagiarism.
14.	I will participate fully, honestly and constructively in dialogue with my teachers regarding the quality of the educational process.
15.	I accept that as a future practitioner of Oral Health Sciences, I must develop and maintain my knowledge of dentistry, my clinical skills, and my professional attitudes to the best of my ability.

16. I will ensure that when using social media sites that I will enable the privacy settings, I will not add patients as friends or upload photographs of any of the clinical environments and will not post information relating to clinics or patients.