

Every Student a Researcher, every Researcher a Teacher

The Edinburgh Medical School:

Preparing students to be world class doctors

This exciting programme, housed in one of Scotland's oldest and most prestigious Medical Schools, sees our Students gain a Bachelor of Medical Sciences (Honours) and a Bachelors of Medicine and Surgery (MBChB) from the University of Edinburgh.

We are committed to high quality, innovative teaching to help you reach your full potential.



Why chose The Edinburgh Medical School?

The MBChB medical degree programme at Edinburgh recognises the talents, skills and diversity of its students and their commitment to a career in medicine. The aim is to develop students to their full potential so that they graduate as caring, competent, reflective and confident medical practitioners who can work at the highest level in a diversity of scientific, clinical, hospital-based and community environments. Clinical teaching takes place in several locations around the south east of Scotland providing a breadth of hospital and community-based experience.



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
Edinburgh Medical School

The Edinburgh Curriculum

Medicine at Edinburgh is based on a long tradition of excellent teaching and offers a modern, innovative curriculum designed to prepare you for the contemporary challenges of medical practice. Our aim is that as an Edinburgh graduate you will be a caring, competent, ethical and reflective doctor who makes the care of patients your first concern. You will be an excellent communicator, able to work well with others, prepared for increasingly complex and uncertain situations, equipped for ongoing personal development, and trained for high professional achievement and leadership.

Our MBChB spans six years, including an academic year of full-time, research-based study in Year 3. Six-year medicine programmes are offered by a number of medical schools in England but to date, Edinburgh is the only Scottish school to do so. You will choose from a wide range of disciplines and topics, including established areas such as neuroscience and new areas such as experimental medicine. Later in the curriculum, you will have opportunities to revisit and extend the research interests developed. On graduation, you will leave with both a research-based BSc (Hons) and an MBChB primary medical qualification. As such, you will have a deep understanding of medical research and evidence-based medicine, which will be useful whatever career path you follow. You will be especially well equipped to pursue an academic career in medicine, where ongoing practical involvement in research, as a physician scientist, is a feature. You may apply for direct progression from Years 2 to 4, but this will only be considered in special circumstances, such as graduate entrants with prior research experience.

The MBChB curriculum content is designed around twelve major outcome themes – biomedical sciences; psychological aspects of medicine; social sciences and public health; evidence-based medicine and research; the consultation; presentation, diagnosis and management; clinical communication; emergency care, clinical and resuscitation skills; clinical pharmacology and therapeutics; medical informatics; medical ethics, legal and professional responsibilities; and personal professional development.

The outcomes are achieved as you progress through a series of courses and attachments based on body systems (such as the cardiovascular system) and/or clinical disciplines (such as surgery). Achievement of the outcomes is assessed by a range of methods, including clinical and computer-based examinations.



Years 1 and 2

Years 1 and 2 – ‘Principles for Practice’ – provides an introduction to the scientific, sociological and behavioural principles for the practice of medicine through a variety of teaching methods. Amongst these methods a problem based learning (PBL) approach is used to help integrate concepts; this reinforces the study of the fundamentals of medicine in context together with developing clinical reasoning and decision-making. PBL sessions are student directed and facilitated by members of staff.

Students learn practical clinical skills and resuscitation throughout the curriculum in purpose built clinical skills facilities.

Clinical experiences begin early in the curriculum. Students interview patients and their families in Year 1 during the Talking with Families and Health Needs of Older People elements and undertake clinically relevant projects in the Student Selected Components in Years 1 and 2.

In Year 2, the Introduction to Clinical Practice course based in General Practice, allows the students to learn key skills such as history-taking and examination. Student are also preparing for their BMedSci (Hons) year and learning about big data.



Year 3 - Honours

Completion of this year will lead to a Bachelor of Medical Sciences Honours degree. During this year students study a scientific discipline in depth and submit a dissertation. Honours programmes include Biochemistry, Medical Biology, Experimental Medicine, Developmental Biology, Evolutionary Biology, Reproductive Biology, Molecular Biology, Infectious Disease, Epidemiology, International Public Health Policy, Genetics, Immunology, Neuroscience, Physiology, Pharmacology, Pharmacology with Industrial Experience, Psychology, Sports Science Medicine and Zoology.

*applicants already holding an Honours Bachelor's degree can apply to transfer directly into Year 4 after successful completion of Years 1 and 2.



Studying medicine at Edinburgh has been the best decision I have ever made; both the staff and students are extremely friendly and supportive and it is this community spirit, intertwined with the Medical School's longstanding history as being at the forefront of medical research and education, which make me confident that I am receiving a world-class education which will stand me in good stead when I hit the wards as a fully qualified doctor.

Christopher – Year 3

Years 4, 5 and 6

In the final years of study, the integrated system-based courses address the major body systems for a second time, introducing child life and health, reproduction and mental health. In the final year of the MBChB students rotate through attachments, learning as apprentices in many different contexts, including several outside the main teaching centres. In the final year of study, after Final Examinations, there is a 6-week elective period during which time students have the opportunity to study outside the UK. The 6-week Student Assistantship prepares students for foundation training and helps to further develop the complex skills required for clinical practice as a junior doctor.

Participate in cutting-edge scientific and clinical research

A particular strength of the Edinburgh programme is that during Year 3 and the student-selected components throughout the MBChB, students can join top-rated laboratory and clinical research groups and develop interests and skills that will often form a basis for their subsequent career. Our international reputation in research is first class with Edinburgh being rated fourth in the UK for Research Power in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF).

Assessment methods

Edinburgh Medical School recognises that people learn effectively in different ways and therefore provides a variety of traditional and innovative methods from lectures to clinical simulations and from the beginning sets that learning in a clinical context. Throughout the programme there is an emphasis on developing students' aptitude for self-regulated and lifelong learning, an essential quality for a successful medical career. For example problem-based learning is used to encourage students to work collaboratively in small groups to integrate knowledge and develop understanding using a series of clinical scenarios. And the online portfolio fosters students' skills in observing and analysing clinical practice to develop their own insights and understanding of what the good doctor does.

Learning outcomes guide delivery of the curriculum; each module, and significant element of teaching has a unique set of learning outcomes to give students a clear idea of what they are required to learn.

Assessment consists of a rich mixture of in-course assessment, portfolio cases, computer-delivered knowledge tests, an honours dissertation, peer assessment, integrated clinical examinations and a graduating examination to validate preparedness for medical practice. Although the programme, you will be formatively assessed to ensure you understand the curriculum and are on the right track.

Academic and Pastoral Support

Students are appointed a Personal Tutor who will mentor and guide them during the programme, meeting regularly to offer help and advice. In Years 4-6 students are also assigned a Clinical Tutor Associate, a doctor in training who will offer monthly sessions of individual tuition tailored to their students' educational needs.

Students transferring into Year 4

Every year, students from other schools including St Andrews, International Medical University, Cambridge and Oxford transfer to Edinburgh at the beginning of Year 4 and undertake a bridging course immediately before the start of the academic year. The aim of the course is to familiarise transfer students with the Medical School, its programme and its teaching hospitals; and to address potential gaps in learning to ensure a smooth transition from one school to another. During the course, students are given the opportunity to practise examination and history taking skills, and learn procedural skills that have been taught in Years 1 and 2 of the Edinburgh programme. The sessions are led by clinicians, academic staff and clinical transfer students from previous years and the latter are on hand to provide incoming students with advice and tips.



Student Engagement The Royal Medical Society (RMS) is run by medical students for medical students studying at Edinburgh. The RMS

originated as a small group of students that met after their formal teaching to further their medical knowledge. This still goes on today. They also run very good social events.



Student representation is the primary role of the Medical Students Council (MSC). Committee members represent student interests in a wide range of

teaching and assessment committees throughout the College and University.

Career opportunities

We participate in the Scottish Foundation Allocation Scheme, which places graduates in Foundation Doctor posts throughout Scotland. Many graduates also go on to work with distinguished national and international research groups. We also hold an annual career fair which gives students the opportunity to meet with potential employers and discuss career paths.

The Athens of the North (or Auld Reekie)

Edinburgh is one of the most vibrant, cosmopolitan cities in Europe, regularly voted one of the most desirable places in the world to live. With four universities and numerous colleges, it is exceptionally student-friendly too. About 30,000 students study at the University of Edinburgh from all over the world and from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Getting around Edinburgh is easy. It's a compact city that's easy to explore on foot, by bike or using the excellent local bus network that covers the majority of the city. Good train and bus services also allow you to explore the wider Lothians region.

There are great pubs, clubs and restaurants, theatres and cinemas, museums, galleries, parks, gardens, shops and sport centres, not to mention, Edinburgh boasts the world's largest arts festival every summer, and world-famous Hogmanay celebrations at the end of the year.

A School Rich in History

Notable alumni include **Robert Sibbald**, 1641-1722 (appointed the first Professor of Medicine at the University of Edinburgh in 1685, founder of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, and founder of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh); **Benjamin Bell**, 1749-1806 (considered the first Scottish scientific surgeon, he founded the Edinburgh school of surgery); **Sophia Jex-Blake**, 1840-1912 (leader of the the first group of female medical undergraduates at a British university, known as the Edinburgh Seven); and **Sir Arthur Conan Doyle**, 1859-1930 (a graduate of the Edinburgh Medical School who created the fictional character, Sherlock Holmes).

A good read is "Bodysnatchers to Lifesavers: Three Centuries of Medicine in Edinburgh". Tara Womersley and Dorothy H Crawford. Luath Press Ltd, 2010.

Train in state-of-the-art clinical and academic facilities

Clinical teaching is integrated throughout the Edinburgh curriculum and takes place in the city's 3 teaching hospitals, in community family practices and in hospitals across south-east Scotland. Facilities for teaching and research are modern and of a high standard and include a state of the art clinical skills and simulation suite in the Chancellor's Building at Little France, adjacent to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, together with adjacent research facilities. There have also been major developments at the Western General Hospital.

Construction is currently underway for the new Royal Hospital for Sick Children adjoining the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh at Little France, due to open in autumn 2017. This project will see a combined building constructed next to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, bringing paediatric care, specialist neonatal care, neurosciences and adult and children's emergency departments together on one site. The six storey building will have a large atrium with a shop and café, a stunning skylight linking both hospital entrances, a helipad on the roof and a link building adjoining adult and paediatric emergency departments.

<http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk/OurOrganisation/PropertyDevelopments/CurrentProjects/RHSCDCNRIECampusWorks/Pages/default.aspx>



College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine The University of Edinburgh

www.mvm.ed.ac.uk
email: medug@ed.ac.uk

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this brochure is up to date at the time of going to press. However, it will not form part of the contract between the University and a student or applicant and must be read in conjunction with the Terms and Conditions of Admission set out in the Undergraduate Prospectus.

The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, with registration number SC005336.