



Welcome to Medicine

July 2020

We are delighted that you have chosen to study medicine at St Andrews, and we look forward to both welcoming and meeting with you in September.

We find that students often share the same concerns and ask similar questions about beginning their time at the School of Medicine. Our [Flying Start](#) website addresses these common issues and provides a 'to do list' which will help you plan for your arrival and will ensure that you complete some essential tasks. You should check the Flying Start website periodically as it will be updated with new information throughout the summer. At the beginning of September you will be given web access to Galen (our online curriculum management system) where you will be able to view your Semester 1 timetable.

Given the current Covid-19 pandemic, we would encourage students to also regularly check the University's information for all students available [here](#).

Orientation Week for Medical Students

The University, the Students' Association, Student Societies, the Halls of Residence and the Athletic Union organise an extensive programme of social and academic activities for all students during Orientation Week. You will find the details on the [University new students web site](#) and this will guide you through what you should do and when to do it. It aims to make the registration process as well as beginning your life as a student of the University of St Andrews run smoothly. The 2020 Orientation Guide is now available in the Orientation App. Details of how to download the App are available [here](#)

In addition to these University events, the School of Medicine organises a programme during orientation week specifically tailored to meet the needs of new medical students. You will meet new colleagues and your clinical skills group, you will hear from some key staff and senior students and be given lots of useful advice to help you prepare for the beginning of your course. A virtual tour of the building will also be available to help you orientate yourself within the School building.

On the Flying Start web site you will find advice relating to:

- **Disclosure and Professionalism** – once your offer has become firm, you should complete an online Disclosure Scotland Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme application. Details on how to do this are included on Flying Start. Payment should be made via the [Online Shop](#) when you submit your completed application.
- **Recommended Textbooks** - information about the text books that have been selected to support your learning.
- **Stethoscopes, Pocket Masks, Protective Glasses and Laboratory White Coats** - which type to get and how/where to buy them. These are essential items for the course required from Week 1. The School will provide any additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required for teaching purposes.
- **Clinical skills dress code** - some hints and tips to make sure you have some appropriate clothes and footwear for clinical skills teaching and clinical placements.

- **Computers** - important advice about computers and information about connecting your computer to the University network.
- [BSc Professionalism Agreement](#) captures the School's expectations of medical students in an agreement form. All students should be familiar with it before they arrive and must agree to follow the guidance and values expressed within it. The content of this agreement will be discussed and you will have opportunities to ask questions during orientation week.
- **A link to the School's handbook** - this summarises key information about the University of St Andrews, the School of Medicine and the first year modules. This is an important document and you should be familiar with it before coming to St Andrews. It includes relevant policies on:-
 - University [disability advice website](#)
 - The School [policy for pregnancy & maternity / parental leave guidelines](#)
- **St Andrews Medic Freshers' Facebook group** - this will be run by students from the School of Medicine. This is a first point of contact with your new colleagues and a forum for informal chat about life as a medical student. Find the link on the [Flying Start](#) page. The Bute Medical Society website is available [here](#), but you can also find them on social media (Butemed Soc on Facebook, also on Twitter and Instagram as @ButeMedics).

All questions relating to the course, fees, visas etc should be directed to the Teaching Support Office on md2000@st-andrews.ac.uk

Once again, we are looking forward to meeting and working with you in September and wish you a safe journey to St Andrews.



Alun Hughes



Peter Caie

Foundations of Medicine Module Controllers