

Practice Placement Uniform

For students on NHS contracted places, the NHS currently pays for two pairs of trousers and three tunics. These will be ordered during Year 1.

The Placement Location Details include any specific uniform requirements with further details available on WebCT. Otherwise practice placement uniform is as follows:

- Navy trousers
- Physiotherapy tunic top
- A navy cardigan or sweatshirt (not hooded)
- Black or navy lace-up shoes with black or navy socks or white/blue or black trainers with white/navy or black socks ('fashion' trainers are not acceptable).

On some practice placements such as paediatrics and gym work, navy tracksuit trousers and white polo shirt with the University logo are the accepted uniform. Items such as tracksuit trousers, polo shirts, sweatshirts are bought by the students.

Except in certain community placements where changing facilities are not available, students must not wear uniform to travel to and from practice placements or to visit shops, banks etc., even if it is covered with a coat or travelling in a car, as this increases the risk of spread of infection and may facilitate the development of resistant bacteria. If it is cold students may wear a plain navy cardigan or sweatshirt over uniform when not treating service users/patients, although hooded sweatshirts are not appropriate.

Students are expected to present a professional appearance at all times, as personal presentation and infection control are very important in a healthcare environment.

- Uniforms should always be smart and clean
- Hair should be tidy and, if long, should be tied up off the collar. If using hair ornaments, these should be discreet and dark in colour.
- No jewellery may be worn with the exception of a wedding ring, although students may, at their own risk, wear plain stud earrings (one in the lobe of each ear). Hoop earrings are not to be worn.

These requirements are also there for students' own safety as long hair and jewellery can constitute a danger when working with people and machinery. Some departments will have changing facilities, but lockable facilities are often minimal. Students are therefore advised to keep personal belongings to a minimum when on placement.

The use of mobile phones within hospitals is prohibited as they can interfere with medical and communications equipment. It is inappropriate to make or receive personal telephone calls whilst on duty except in exceptional circumstances.

Students should wear their name badges and university ID at all times, unless this is a danger to service users/patients. However, some NHS Trusts provide students with temporary I.D. badges to wear instead of the University badge. These must be returned at the end of the placement.