

Quality Management Visit to Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals

Initial Feedback

Organisation Visited	Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals
Date(s) of Visit	19 th January 2023
AMS Team	Professor Helen Cameron – Dean of Medical Education/Interim Head of School Dr Shagaf Bakour – Director of Medical Education Phase II Dr Zaki Hassan-Smith – Year 5 Lead Dr Benjamin Thompson – Year 3 Lead Dr Liz Bridges – Director of External Operations David Santoro – Clinical Liaison Manager Dr Seema Jham – Foundation Programme Director, UHB

The purpose of this proforma is to give initial feedback soon after a visit which might be in-person or virtual; it is not a list of good practice, requirements, and recommendations as they will appear in the report. This proforma will be completed on the final day of the visit and provided to you by email as a PDF. If you choose to disseminate this feedback to your stakeholders, please use this proforma so that the context for this feedback is understood by all.

	Areas the team consider to be working well
1.	We found a very positive ethos and culture around education at all levels, and this is evidenced by the Trust's approach to education and its funding, the support systems for students and staff and the supportive attitudes demonstrated by staff. Specific examples include: the high levels of competition for CTF posts within the Trust, CTFs' knowledge of and empathy for students, and their enthusiasm for their roles, the opportunities given to staff to engage with ongoing CPD and educational qualifications, role-modelling from senior staff about positive inter-personal relationships and an equally firm response to bullying and harassment.
2.	The Trust ensures that the HEE Tariff for education is used for that purpose and this has had a positive impact on the ethos and culture around education.
3.	There is a systematic approach to clinical teaching through simulation and themed weeks.
4.	There are clear examples of the Trust listening to students and responding to feedback by taking positive action to promote relationships and address students' concerns. One such example is the appointment of a member of the teaching clinical staff as a champion for 'Speaking Up', to serve as a link between medical students and the Speaking Up Guardian.

5.	The Trust undertakes additional individual educational appraisal for those with significant responsibilities for education in the Trust; currently occurring every 4-5 years.
6.	The appointment of a paediatric CTF with a split post across education and clinical practice appears to have a very positive effect on students' education; staff report that students benefited in the clinical setting, by linking with a clinician with whom they were familiar from the teaching.

Areas the team consider could be improved	
1.	The Trust has implemented a number of developments with respect to supervising practical procedures to ensure patient safety and these will be documented in the full report. However the Trust must consider how to disseminate, to all its teachers, the best practice in safety checks before observing students undertaking practical procedures: in particular observers should ask students if the procedure is on their study list for the year and if they have completed the task successfully in simulation first.
2.	AMS and the Trust should continue to find ways to strengthen the sharing and transfer of information from AMS to the Trust about the MBChB programme, particularly around the curriculum and Blackboard content, including the list of presentations and conditions for each specialty, but also on adjunctive processes such as how to commend a student.
3.	The Trust should find ways to enable SATUs to honour their dedicated time for weekly meetings with students, in addition to their mid-placement and end of placement review meetings.
4.	The Trust and AMS should together design a clearly understood approach to develop students' knowledge, skills and clinical judgement systematically across the year, from initial history taking in the first block to clinical management in the second and third blocks of the academic year.
5.	AMS has experience of the Trust's excellent work on hosting and staffing OSCEs in SWBH. However, there is a need for the Trust to further encourage Consultants to participate as examiners in summative OSCEs held at other Trusts.

Aston Medical School would like to thank Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals for providing a thorough Self-Evaluation Document before the visit, for bringing together so many education staff for the quality management visit and for the very open and constructive discussions during the meetings.

Next Steps

The findings from this visit will be added to a more detailed report, outlining any requirements, recommendations and good practice, and this will be shared with Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals. There will be an opportunity to comment on factual accuracy of the full report before it is finalised.

If you have any questions or wish to raise any factual errors in this initial feedback please do so by email to David Santoro (d.santoro1@aston.ac.uk) by Monday 30 January 2023.