

University of Liverpool
School of Medicine
Teaching on placement sites 2021-22

Vaccination

Some Y3 students, students returning from intercalation and most Y2 students may not be vaccinated. Please can students be invited to attend vaccination clinics where they are not vaccinated.

Testing

All students are being asked to do lateral flow tests on Sundays and Wednesdays and upload tests into the NHS system. Random sample checks of this will be carried out by the School.

Isolation

Students will be expected to isolate as per the local protocols applying to staff. Information on this would be welcomed.

PPE

We are assuming that students will continue to have access to the same PPE as staff. For students who require to maintain a beard for religious reasons, and where the Trust (or student risk score and OH assessment) specifies FFP3 for 'required' portfolio experiences in the placement specifications, a respirator mask (not hood) can be sought from the School, as most students with beards have been able to fit test suitably with this (risk.mbchb@liverpool.ac.uk).

Scrubs

Students should not wear scrubs on public or shared transport. They should be allowed to and encouraged to change on arrival and before departure, where possible within facilities for changing.

Attendance

Full attendance at each week is expected of students. Students must sign in each day (with allowances being made for students who are on shifts). Students do not need to sign out.

To ensure that the School can apply COVID tracing, absent students should be reported that day to the year team. Students who report that they have symptoms, have tested positive or are isolating must also contact the School risk team: risk.mbchb@liverpool.ac.uk with evidence of notifications AND complete the online (School intranet) absence form.

No student should return to placement after isolating, or infection without approval from the School. An email from the risk or year team will advise the placement site that this has been granted.

Study days off are not permitted by the School. Where at all possible, the new timetable should be used to encourage students to attend a broad range of opportunities, relevant to their placement, across the week. The portfolios contain an increased level of requirements over the significant reductions that could not be avoided last year.

Small group teaching (e.g., CBL, pharmacy)

Trusts can choose to deliver small group teaching sessions either F2F or digitally. Until November, when the situation will be reviewed, the following should apply to F2F sessions:

- Students in F2F classes must be separated by a safe social distance e.g., 1m, and wearing masks. A teacher does not need to wear a mask while speaking, if more than 2m from students and the room is ventilated.
- To avoid unnecessary student travel on public transport, F2F teaching sessions should not be held on the Wednesday morning preceding a Wednesday 1/2 day.
- F2F sessions should not involve the sharing of food or drink, unless this is individually packaged.

It should be noted that the above mirrors the School's approach to campus teaching over this period. In addition, please note that Y5 CBL and pharmacy teaching will be online, to allow students from multiple sites attending the same placement to participate.

Ward level teaching and meetings, e.g., X-ray meetings, departmental tutorials

Until November, when the situation will be reviewed, students can attend such sessions but within the same conditions on social distance, masks and food/drink, as for small group teaching.

Clinical skills and simulation teaching

Until November, when the situation will be reviewed, the Clinical skills team will be continuing to apply COVID measures for all on campus skills teaching. The same COVID measures previously advised by the Clinical Skills team for clinical skills teaching should continue to apply. However, simulation days can resume as full days.

Sites are encouraged to ask students for evidence of their negative lateral flow tests before their clinical skills and simulation sessions.