MBChB

Code of Practice for the Pastoral Support Unit

September 2017
Introduction

This code of practice sets out the procedures for pastoral support of students on the MB ChB Programme at Leicester Medical School. This Code of Practice complies with the General Medical Council’s documents entitled Promoting Excellence (2016) and Supporting Students with Mental Health Conditions (2013).

Principles

- Leicester Medical School provides support for all students (see Code of Practice for Personal Support).
- Leicester Medical School has a Pastoral Support Unit (PSU). The Pastoral Support Unit will provide:
  - Personal support when required
  - Crisis support
  - Signposting to other relevant agencies within, and external to, the University in order to support the individual student
- The responsibility for initiating contact with the Pastoral Support Unit lies with the individual student.
- Students and staff have equal responsibility for developing and maintaining the relationship.
- Staff providing Pastoral support within the PSU will be qualified Doctors and will be registered with the General Medical Council.
- Students will not ask for a medical opinion from a member of the Pastoral Support Unit. Therefore:
  - Pastoral Support Unit staff will not provide a Medical opinion
  - Pastoral Support Unit staff will not provide medical treatment
- Staff providing Pastoral support will receive training. This should be through induction for new staff and appropriate on-going staff development either within the University of Leicester or externally. The on-going staff development will include information regarding other services and appropriate management of issues relevant to the students.
- Both staff and students will abide by the Medical School Confidentiality Policy
- Staff will liaise, as appropriate, with other members of the Medical School, University or external agencies (e.g. Occupational Health and General Practitioners) with the student’s consent in order to support the student
- Staff and students are not permitted to record a Pastoral Support meeting without the consent of the other party.
- Students will receive information about the Pastoral Support Unit during Induction week.
- Students will have access to electronic information about the Pastoral Support Unit on Blackboard and on the University of Leicester website. See Pastoral Support Unit
- Students will need to sign a consent form prior to their first visit to the PSU.

Membership of the Pastoral Support Unit

1) Lead for Pastoral Support
2) Members of clinical staff providing pastoral support
3) An Administrative Secretary appointed by the Departmental Manager
PASTORAL SUPPORT UNIT CONSENT FORM

I confirm that I have read the Leicester University Medical School’s Confidentiality Policy. I am aware that I can discuss the policy with a member of the Pastoral Support Team if I wish.

I am aware that Mrs Oppenheimer and Dr Parkinson are seeing me for pastoral support and not in their capacity as doctors.

Name:

Signature:

Date: