Undergraduate Courses in

Medicine MBChB
Contents

4 Medicine MBChB
5 Why Study Medicine at Leicester?
6 UK first heart operations using novel system at Leicester
7 Course Structure
   8 Phase I
   10 The Clinical Years (Phases 2-4)
   11 Intercalated BSc
12 Medical Elective
13 Activities and outreach
14 Teaching Methods and Facilities
16 Entry Requirements
18 Financial Support and Fees
20 Student Life
22 The City of Leicester
24 Contact details
Welcome to Leicester Medical School

We hope that this course brochure will give you a flavour of what it is like to be a medical student at Leicester.

We are looking to attract men and women from all backgrounds who display a caring attitude and values consistent with those of the NHS constitution. Our aim is to help you become skilled, professional and caring doctors equipped for the modern health service and prepared to make patient care your first priority.

At Leicester, you will learn from experts in their field and from patients. Our new curriculum allows enhanced time for patient contact and is designed to meet the needs and challenges of the NHS.

Our new Centre for Medicine and our state-of-the-art clinical skills unit provide superb facilities for learning. We also have an excellent network of teaching and district general hospitals, along with practices out in the community, where you can learn in a safe and inspiring environment.
Medicine MBChB

Contact Details
University of Leicester
Leicester Medical School
Centre for Medicine
Lancaster Road
Leicester, LE1 7HA

www.le.ac.uk/medical-school

Aims and Outcomes

At Leicester Medical School you will study for the degrees of MBChB (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) through our newly designed patient-focused curriculum, which allows enhanced patient contact.

Our aim is to prepare new doctors to meet the challenges of health care in the 21st century. You will take forward knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that will prepare you for the inevitable changes in practice that will come in the future. The course is designed to provide you with the clinical competence to work as a Foundation Doctor, and the potential to develop into a compassionate, caring and skilled doctor.

Our course is approved by the General Medical Council and graduation will make you eligible for provisional registration as a doctor.
Why Study Medicine at Leicester?

- We have outstanding facilities. Our new £42 million Centre for Medicine is a state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly building that harnesses the very latest technology and resources, creating an outstanding learning environment for our medical students.
- Our integrated course is patient-focused from the very start, with clinical attachments in year one.
- Anatomy is taught with the help of full body dissection in our newly enhanced dissecting room, which benefits from the latest technology such as Apple TVs and video recording equipment.
- Our Clinical Skills Unit offers high tech simulated manikins (iStan® and SimMan®) to enable you to practice procedures in a safe environment before having to perform them on patients.
- All first year students are provided with iPads. Lecture and group work material is delivered directly onto the iPads enabling you to annotate during sessions. Content can also be rapidly revised and updated.
- We have fully embraced the rapidly changing field of digital technology, both in its application to teaching but also to the provision of personalised medicine. Our new curriculum contains training on the applications of digital technology to patient care.
- From the start of the third year teaching is designed around extended clinical placements in hospitals or the community, allowing you to learn from those at the front line of their speciality.
- We have many partnerships with hospitals in the region, from Leicester’s big city hospitals to Lincoln and Northampton, meaning you gain experience in a diverse range of environments.
UK first heart operations using novel system at Leicester

Leicester Professor deploys new system to target critical circuits for heart rhythm disturbance

The UK’s first heart operations using a novel software platform to pinpoint the source of the heart condition have been carried out in Leicester thanks to research at the University.

Professor André Ng, Professor of Cardiac Electrophysiology at the University of Leicester and Consultant Cardiologist and Electrophysiologist at Leicester’s Hospitals, has carried out these operations since November 2015.
Our New Curriculum

Our new curriculum (launched September 2016) is designed to respond to the changes and developments in the NHS. Teaching and learning will be based around patients and their needs. It is not a problem-based learning course, rather a patient-focused curriculum. We will maintain the mixture of lectures, small group work and clinical teaching and ensure that you are given full opportunity to learn the essential science underpinning how the human body operates whilst learning how things can go wrong through the study of patients.

The curriculum will be divided into four phases, with Phase 1 (Years One and Two) being largely based in our new Centre for Medicine. Phases 2 to 4 will be based in hospitals and out in the community.

Course Structure

The course has a strong patient focus from the very beginning. It is integrated such that you learn all the disciplines together, in a clinical context i.e. in the context of a patient.

### YEARS ONE AND TWO: LAYING THE FOUNDATION (PHASE 1)

- Early clinical apprenticeship with clinical attachments and development of clinical skills
- Integrated teaching of molecular and cellular science and systems of the body
- Integrated teaching on infection, pharmacology and therapeutics
- Social, behavioural and population sciences

### YEARS THREE, FOUR AND FIVE: THE CLINICAL YEARS

- Phase 2 – Clinical apprenticeship through long attachments to hospital and community placements
- Phase 3 – Speciality blocks
- Phase 4 – Six month foundation apprenticeship
- Student selected components
- Elective opportunities
Phase 1 lasts two years. You will take a series of integrated, interdisciplinary modules related to human structure and function in health and disease.

You will also undertake community attachments to illustrate the social and psychological context of medicine. Theoretical study of social and behavioural science supplements this learning in the community. By the end of Phase 1 you will:

- Be able to communicate with patients and examine them clinically.
- Have a good understanding of the structure and function of the human body and how this relates to health and illness.
- Appreciate the psychological and social context of health and illness.
Knowledge and Skills

The learning in Phase 1 provides you with essential knowledge and skills that will underpin your clinical practice throughout life.

You will learn skills of professional communication and physical examination by working first with ‘simulated patients’ – actors trained to help you learn – and other volunteers.

Very soon you will begin working on hospital wards with real patients.

You must pass a formal clinical examination at the end of Phase 1 to demonstrate that you have the basic clinical skills necessary for the clinical phases.

Understanding People

You will learn how the human body is put together and how it works in health and illness but you will also come to understand that patients are not just the illnesses they suffer from: They have social and psychological dimensions to their lives that affect how they become ill, how they react to illness, and the consequences of illness for them.

Learning about social and behavioural medicine will help you to understand the whole person in the context of health care. Early patient contact will help you to understand these issues.
The Clinical Years (Phases 2-4)

We believe that the best way to learn medicine is to work with practising doctors. You will spend virtually all of your time in the clinical phases working full-time in clinical environments. Working with medical staff in hospitals and the community is the best way to apply your knowledge, gain experience and learn more. In each placement you will be part of a team caring for patients – the range of patients and illnesses you see will reflect the demands on doctors, preparing you for the working environment after you qualify.

We have placements in various hospitals in the city, county and region, as well as community attachments. This means you will experience a diverse range of environments, colleagues and patients.

In Phase 2 you will have longer apprentice style placements in medicine, surgery and community medicine, learning from experts in hospital or GP practices.

Phase 3 will allow time for speciality blocks such as Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Child Health and Psychiatry.

In Phase 4 of the course, the scheduling of the Finals examination is arranged to allow time for an extended foundation apprenticeship designed to fully prepare you for work as a Foundation Doctor.

During the clinical years, learning in each placement will be by a series of structured activities, guided by a workbook and led by experienced clinical teachers.

Student Selected Components – following your interests

Doctors must be able to critically evaluate information. During the course you will have the opportunity to take ‘Student Selected Components’, which will help you to develop skills of understanding and evaluation and allow you to explore areas which you are interested in.

To see the full list of placements and how it fits together see www.le.ac.uk/medical-school
Course Opportunity –

Intercalated Degree Programme

If you are interested in medical research and/or enhancing your career prospects, you can opt to undertake an additional year of study towards an intercalated BSc Honours Degree. This is normally taken between Phase 1 and 2, and allows you to pursue specific areas of academic interest. There are three routes:

- BSc Biomedical Science (Intercalated)
- BSc Clinical Sciences (Intercalated)
- BSc Medical Research (Intercalated)

The BSc Medical Research is a highly popular research route, which enables you to become fully immersed in a research project of your choice and work alongside the University’s world-leading academics.

Recent projects have included:

- Are raised blood eosinophils associated with severe preschool wheeze?
- Exercise in Type 1 Diabetes – fit for purpose? Using CGM to explore physical activity outcomes
- Physical functioning, body composition and cardiovascular risk in kidney transplant recipients
- Investigating the effect of telomere length on endothelial function and atherogenesis

www.le.ac.uk/intercalate

My year as an Intercalated BSc student has been extremely rewarding and provided me with a great appreciation of, so called, ‘basic’ sciences and their importance in the clinical practice. Completing the iBSc project confirmed the importance of medical research in my future career.

Diana Kluczna
I took part in a variety of screening camps travelling to remote villages. The aim was to identify serious conditions and to promote health services.

My next task was to carry out child health checks for local crèches for infants and young children.

My final project involved working on HIV and sexual health awareness. I produced the programme materials and trained the staff.

Jignesh

I spent eight weeks working in the slums of Pune, India in a free health clinic. As part of this I conducted over 100 child health checks.

Louise

Medical Elective

You will have the chance to undertake an elective of your choice – where you can study healthcare in a completely new environment. Many of our students choose to travel and gain medical experience in another country, such as these students who spent their elective working with the Deep Griha Society, Pune, India, which works towards bettering the lives of people living in the slums.
Activities and outreach

The students and staff of Leicester Medical School have a long history of commitment to a range of outreach programmes.

Operating under the banner of ‘Medreach’, independent student groups such as Sexpersion, Teddy Bear’s Hospital and Medsin are a powerful force for change, bringing key healthcare issues to a range of groups in Leicester and Leicestershire, including schools and colleges, community groups and charitable organisations.

You can also sign up to the University-led Medreach volunteering programme offering mentoring and support to young people from backgrounds under-represented in medical schools to encourage a more diverse medical profession.

LUSUMA – Student Society

It is important to have a good social life and a balanced lifestyle. LUSUMA (Leicester University Students’ Union Medical Association) is run by students and organises a huge variety of social events, sports clubs, academic and medical interest groups, as well as providing support and resources for all medical students at Leicester.

Visit www.lusuma.com
Teaching and Learning Methods

The course is patient-focused and integrated so that all learning takes place in a clinical context.

In Phase 1 there is a balanced mixture of lectures, clinical teaching and group work. Group work is supported by experienced academic teachers and clinically qualified staff – you work to solve problems related to clinical cases. Your iPad will support your learning throughout.

In Phases 2-4 you will be working with doctors in hospitals and the community in a variety of clinical placements. For each placement you will be given clear outcomes defining what you should be able to do by graduation. Structured activities guide you through.

Medicine requires a commitment to lifelong learning. Throughout the course you should be prepared to reflect on your skills and organise your own self-directed study.

Assessment

At the end of the day all parts of the curriculum must come together in your own mind, so you may focus them on clinical problems.

Our assessments are integrated to help you to consider all aspects of the course when tackling a clinical problem. You will have regular opportunities for formative assessments throughout Phase 1. This gives you an informal opportunity to test your learning and get feedback. We will also give you feedback on the summative assessments which you must pass to progress to the next stage. We use a variety of assessment techniques to test your ability to apply your knowledge and skills to clinical problems and patient management.

In the clinical years you will receive continual feedback on your developing clinical skills during your placements.

Personal Support

When you start at Leicester Medical School you will be assigned a personal tutor with whom you will meet regularly to discuss your feedback from assessments, continuing professional development and any personal issues. All students have access to our own dedicated Pastoral Support Unit, run by staff experienced in dealing with pastoral issues. Centrally, the University offers welfare, study and accessibility support.

Facilities

We have excellent, dedicated facilities for medical education. Our new Centre for Medicine offers a state-of-the-art teaching environment. New lecture theatres, seminar rooms and consultation rooms feature high quality IT equipment and the latest infrastructure to support the use of iPads and teaching technology. It also acts as a focal point for Leicester’s medical research, allowing our academics to collaborate and
generate new knowledge and research into major chronic diseases, including kidney disease, stroke, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease and patients’ safety.

Our large, well-equipped dissecting room allows us to maintain the learning of anatomy through the extensive study of cadavers.

Outcome of the Course

At the end of the undergraduate course you will receive your MBChB degrees, which is a primary medical qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles you to provisional registration with the General Medical Council. Provisionally registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year 1 posts: the law does not allow provisionally registered doctors to undertake any other type of work.

To obtain a Foundation Year 1 post you will need to apply during the final year of your undergraduate course through the UK Foundation Programme Office selection scheme, which allocates these posts to graduates on a competitive basis. So far, all suitably qualified UK graduates have found a place on the Foundation Year 1 programme but this cannot be guaranteed, for instance if there were to be an excessive number of competitive applications from non-UK graduates.

Successful completion of the Foundation Year 1 programme is normally achieved within 12 months and is marked by the award of a Certificate of Experience. You will then be eligible to apply for full registration with the General Medical Council. You need full registration with a licence to practice for unsupervised medical practice in the NHS or private practice.
Entry Requirements

UCAS code: A100 MBChB
We offer 241 places each year for students, including 18 places for students from outside the European Union. All entrants are selected on the basis of academic performance and personal qualities assessed from the application form and at interview.

GCSEs
We expect to see a good range of GCSE results, or equivalent, with high grades and a supportive reference from your school or college.

Work Experience
Work experience in an appropriate environment (e.g. in a hospital, with a GP, in a residential home etc) is desirable but the difficulty in obtaining this type of work experience is acknowledged and other work experience involving working with people is acceptable.

A Levels
For school and college leavers we welcome the developments in breadth in the post-16 curriculum but will expect very high grades at A level.

The normal offer is AAA, including Chemistry and Biology if Biology is not studied to AS level, and excluding General Studies and Critical Thinking.

UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT)
You will be required to complete the UKCAT. This assesses your verbal, quantitative and abstract reasoning, decision making and situational judgement. There is no curriculum to study; however you can complete practice tests online and via an app. www.ukcat.ac.uk

Other Qualifications and Experience
A number of equivalent qualifications are acceptable, including International Baccalaureate. Graduates of any discipline or students in the final year of their degree may apply providing they have obtained or are predicted a 2:1 or first class honours degree. For full entry requirements and how we score candidates, visit www.le.ac.uk/medical-school
Interview

If selected for interview, we will assess your motivation for a career in medicine, your personal qualities and values, communication and problem solving skills through a series of multiple mini interviews. We are looking for individuals with values which align to those of the NHS constitution and who are prepared to make patients their number one priority.

More information

There is more information about applying to Leicester, our Admissions and Selections Procedure and how we score candidates on our website www.le.ac.uk/medical-school

How to apply

All applications must be made online through www.ucas.com

Email app.req@ucas.ac.uk

As far as the General Medical Council is concerned the training of students at Leicester is a splendid example of how we want young doctors to be equipped to handle society’s medical problems.

Sir Donald Irvine, Past President of the General Medical Council
Financial Support and Fees

English domiciled entrants to the five-year curriculum are eligible for Department of Health support in their fifth year of study.

Further information on NHS Bursaries may be obtained at www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/Students.aspx

Information on fees can be found at www.le.ac.uk/fees
"Leicester doctors are friendly doctors"; When I heard this at the open day I attended five years ago, it resonated with me. I can confidently say from my experiences so far in Leicester, that this sentiment is true. There is a community-feel to Leicester Medical School and a strong sense of purpose and belonging.

The integrated course at Leicester has suited my learning and I think it is the best way to study medicine. In phase 1, lectures are consolidated with meaningful group work sessions, led by doctors interested in education; they are committed to providing top-quality teaching, and relate theory to real-life clinical practice. The ability to study anatomy with full-body dissection was a privilege and of real benefit when it came to my surgical clinical blocks. I have also particularly valued the early patient contact and consultation skill sessions. In the new curriculum these have been enhanced and clinical teaching maximised at the early stage. I think this is great and something that future students will find enjoyable and useful.

In Leicester there is the option to intercalate, which I have undertaken for the past year. I chose a project as part of the medical research iBSc, investigating comorbidities in patients with COPD. Intercalation has allowed me to develop skills for academic writing, critical appraisal and medical statistics, and also to attend international conferences to present work. My supervisor has always looked to push me to produce the best-quality work, and unquestionably always had my best interests in mind. I have thoroughly enjoyed this year, and believe the experiences had will aide in my aspiration to become a clinical academic doctor.

The campus at Leicester is compact and friendly, and the students’ union is ace. The University Library is much-loved and there are also good libraries at the hospitals in the city. The new Centre for Medicine is an incredible building and I am very jealous of future students who will get to use it!

Leicester is a diverse and lively city, and is definitely the place to be at the moment (especially if, like me, you are a football fan…). I really enjoyed living in Oadby halls in first-year; some of my best memories are of five-a-side games with block-mates and cycling to local pubs. The housing areas near the University I have lived in since are student-friendly and also cheap, leaving more money for socialising!

Overall I have no regrets whatsoever about choosing Leicester. The course is great, the campus is great, the people are great and the city is great. I would definitely recommend considering it as the place to undertake your medical degree.
Student Life

Campus
On our bustling compact campus it’s impossible to walk from one end to the other without bumping into someone you know along the way. The campus is a vibrant community, with all manner of places to meet, eat and drink, as well as study. We’re committed to providing you with high quality facilities and resources that meet the needs of modern and ambitious students.

Students’ Union
The Students’ Union is brimming with opportunities that will make your time at Leicester unforgettable. The spectacular Percy Gee building boasts superb facilities, including the fantastic live music venue, O₂ Academy Leicester. You are encouraged to get involved with the SU – there are over 200 student societies covering a huge range – sport, politics, media, performing arts and much, much more. It’s a great way of meeting new people, gaining skills or trying something completely different!

www.leicesterunion.com

Accommodation
Our accommodation offers you a wide variety of choice, whether you fancy self-catered or catered, en-suite or standard.

www.le.ac.uk/accommodation

Private accommodation is available through our lettings agency, SUlets.

www.sulets.com
Sports Facilities
You can enjoy a workout, take a swim or build up a sweat in a fitness class at our modern sports centres on campus or at Manor Road (next to our accommodation). You can also get involved with our sports clubs, which welcome members of all abilities. Keen competitors can also represent the University through Team Leicester, the hotly-contested Varsity matches and our thriving Intramural events.

www.le.ac.uk/sports

Library
Our award-winning David Wilson Library is a light, airy, five-storey building providing state-of-the-art services.

The Library is a first-class study environment with wireless access throughout, 24/5 opening during term-time, hundreds of PCs, laptop loans, group study rooms, support staff and a café. Our digital library, available 24/7 on and off campus, contains over 800,000 eBooks, 65,000 electronic journals and online support services. The Library is home to over one million printed volumes and extensive collections of rare books and archives.

Our Librarians have created online guides to help you find information for your coursework and we invest over £7 million each year in the Library to make sure that you have the resources and services you need.

www.le.ac.uk/library

Attenborough Arts Centre
The Attenborough Arts Centre is the University’s own arts centre, offering a vibrant programme of events, music, spoken word, and exhibitions in its new gallery and performance spaces. Attenborough Arts offers you the chance to try something new, from a variety of arts courses to hula hoop dancing or creative writing. There are special discounts for students. Or if you just want a break from your studies you can enjoy free lunchtime music performances or have a drink at the café.

www.attenborougharts.com
The City of Leicester

Leicester is a lively and diverse city and the tenth largest in Britain. It has all the activities and facilities you would expect, with a friendly and safe atmosphere. The city centre is just a short walk from campus so you’ll never be far from the action.

Leicester’s diverse heritage is reflected in a dazzling array of festivals and cultural experiences including one of the largest Diwali celebrations outside India, the UK’s longest running Comedy Festival and the University’s hugely successful book festival – Literary Leicester.

Leicester is home to several cinemas, theatres, museums and galleries, including the world-class Curve Theatre and independent Phoenix Square.

A city of sporting excellence, sports fans will need no introduction to the remarkable Leicester City and their phenomenal Premier League title victory. You can also watch top-class English and European rugby at Welford Road, home of the mighty Leicester Tigers. The Leicester Riders are a formidable presence in the British Basketball League (BBL), and during the summer months, Leicestershire County Cricket Club competes in the county championship and T20 Blast competition.

For shoppers, Highcross features 110,000 square metres of retail therapy, café bars and restaurants. Those with independent tastes should explore Leicester Lanes with its variety of boutiques and specialist shops.

As you would expect from a true student city, there is a huge choice of bars, clubs and live music venues that cater for all preferences. Food lovers are treated to a fantastic selection of restaurants, with specialities available from every corner of the world.

In the lanes you’ve got all these little old boutiques that sell vintage clothes and things you wouldn’t expect to find in your general high street stores.
The city is big enough that it will take you three years to discover everything about it, but it’s small enough so you won’t be completely lost the entire time you are here.
This brochure was published in April 2017. The University of Leicester endeavours to ensure that the content of its prospectus, programme specification, website content and all other materials are complete and accurate. On occasion it may be necessary to make some alterations to particular aspects of a course or module, and where these are minor, for example altering the lecture timetable or location, then we will ensure that you have as much notice as possible of the change to ensure that the disruption to your studies is minimised.

However, in exceptional circumstances it may be necessary for the University to cancel or change a programme or part of the specification more substantially. For example, due to the unavailability of key teaching staff, changes or developments in knowledge or teaching methods, the way in which assessment is carried out, or where a course or part of it is over-subscribed to the extent that the quality of teaching would be affected to the detriment of students. In these circumstances, we will contact you as soon as possible and in any event will give you [30 days] written notice before the relevant change is due to take place. Where this occurs, we will also and in consultation with you, offer you an alternative course or programme (as appropriate) or the opportunity to cancel your contract with the University and obtain a refund of any advance payments that you have made.