Great North Children’s Hospital  
Newcastle Upon Tyne

Student Elective Process

We are pleased to be able to offer medical student electives for students around the UK and from overseas. There are a wide range of experiences that can be obtained. Please visit our website to see the services we provide:  
http://www.newcastle-hospitals.org.uk/services/childrens.aspx

It should be noted that we are a major teaching hospital and we have a duty to teach medical students from Newcastle University. During several periods in the year when they are present they will have priority in gaining general paediatric medicine experience. However, there is a whole range of paediatric specialties where elective students can gain experience in. We are also able to organise rotations between departments in order to give a wider range of experience.

An example of a rotation is:

- Specialty paediatrics for 2 weeks (eg, oncology, respiratory, gastroenterology, nephrology, immunology, endocrinology, rheumatology, community paediatric, cardiology etc)
- Nights on call for 1 week
- Neonatology or PICU for 1 week
- Specialty paediatrics 2 weeks

Special interests:

Students with a special interest are most welcomed. They should make contact early so supervisors, projects and placements can be prepared.
**Timing of electives:**

We do not normally accept electives during September to December. We can usually accommodate most requests over summer period (June to August) but can take a small number of elective students from January to May.

We cannot offer general paediatric experiences outside of summer as Newcastle medical students are prioritised during term times. We do however encourage each elective student to do a week of nights on call to enhance their experience and gain insight into our hospital at night.

**Application process:**

The timescale may seem rather long but processes need to occur at the hospital and at Newcastle University

To apply:

1. Email: Lisa Hardisty (Lisa.Hardisty@nuth.nhs.uk) outlining why you want an elective with us and the potential dates. Attach your CV.

2. Outline the type of experience and specialties you would prefer – ask for different specialties in case we cannot accommodate you in your preferred ones. State if you wish for experience in different departments.

3. We will forwards your email approach to the head of the department(s) and ask if they can accommodate you.

4. The head of department will allocate a named supervisor for your elective. We will put you in touch with that supervisor so that you can then plan a draft timetable.

5. Once you have a named supervisor and a draft timetable you then apply for a medical student elective via Newcastle University. Please visit the following website for guidance:
   [http://www.ncl.ac.uk/mbbs/support/inelectives.htm](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/mbbs/support/inelectives.htm)
   - you will find an application form; this states the requirements needed to apply
   - within the form you can insert the name and contact of the Elective Supervisor
   - electives are normally between 3-8 weeks in duration
   - they usually require 6 months notice

6. If you wish to contact the medical School: (Tel: 0191 222 8402, email: medical-electives@ncl.ac.uk)

7. The Medical Student Office cannot arrange accommodation for you but they can provide you with a list of local accommodation providers.

8. Please read the Incoming Elective Policy on the Newcastle University webpage above carefully. This gives guidance on issues including Visas, dress code and professionalism.
Before the elective starts

- We will require you to have a timetable agreed with you Clinical Elective Supervisor and that this must emailed to Lisa Hardisty
- You will need to share your name, home address, Newcastle address and contact number with Lisa Hardisty

On completion of the elective

- Complete a short reflective report about your elective. See the appendix for the proforma.
- We expect you to complete feedback so that we can understand what worked well for you and what we could develop further. See the appendix for the feedback proforma.
- Email both to Lisa Hardisty
- We may use your report in the future on our webpage to illustrate the experiences we offer.

With kind regards

Dr Mike Mckean and Prof Josef Vormoor
The Great North Children’s Hospital
Appendix

1. GNCH Medical Elective Student Report

This report should be no more than 2 pages long and should act as a summary of your experience, including any project work you have completed. The following titles may be used to structure your report:

Name:
Home address:

Home University/medical school:

Contact email:
Year of medical studies:

Date of elective period – from: to:

Clinical Elective Supervisor:

Aims of your elective period:

Specific learning objectives:

Summary of your work:

Outline of learning gained:
2. GNCH Medical Elective Student Feedback

Please email this feedback to XXXXXX and to your Clinical Elective supervisor

1. Why did you choose the GNCH for your student elective?

2. What were you aiming to get out of your student elective?

3. Do you feel you have achieved what you wanted out of your elective? (underline)
   a. Yes
   b. No
   If No please state why:

4. Please state what you have enjoyed about your time in the GNCH:

5. Please state if there is anything we could look to do better for future elective students:

6. Would you recommend the GNCH to other medical students in your university?

Thank you