

# Learning Environment



Day Case / DOSA

# Learner Booklet

## Welcome

We would like to warmly welcome you to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (LTHTR). Incorporated on the 1st of April 2005, LTHTR was the first trust in the county to be awarded “Teaching Hospitals” status.

We have created this pack as a useful resource to help you to settle in with us. The purpose of this booklet is to provide you with information to help you on your learning environment.

## About LTHTR

### We have three equally important strategic aims:

- To provide outstanding and sustainable healthcare to our local communities
- To offer a range of high-quality specialist services to patients in Lancashire and South Cumbria
- To drive health innovation through world class education, training and research

We provide a range of Hospital based health services for adults and children and cover a range of specialities. These include cancer services such as radiotherapy, drug therapies and surgery, disablement services such as artificial limbs and wheelchair provision. Other specialities include vascular, major trauma, renal, neurosurgery and neurology including brain surgery and nervous system diseases.

### Our five core values:

- Being caring and compassionate
- Recognising individuality
- Seeking to involve
- Building team spirit
- Taking personal responsibility



We deliver care and treatment from three main facilities:

- Royal Preston Hospital
- Chorley and South Ribble Hospital
- Specialist Mobility and Rehabilitation Centre, Preston

In relation to car parking, please refer to your Induction to the Trust, for information regarding car parking. Additional information can be found on our Intranet page.

<https://legacy-intranet.lthtr.nhs.uk/car-parking-documents>



## Learning Environment

We would like to welcome you to your learning environment.

The DoSSA/Day Case Unit is an area with the capacity to hold 21 patients at one time, with a range of chairs and patient trolleys available dependent on whether the patient will be undergoing a General Anaesthetic, Local Anaesthetic, Spinal etc.

Our role on the unit is to safely admit our patients through a green elective stream, when they arrive at the arranged times during the day. It is then our duty to commence the patient's journey through observations, assessments, operation checklists and consent etc, allowing them to become prepared for their planned procedure and subsequent discharge. It is important to establish on admission if the patient has transport home post procedure and if any support is required. This allows early intervention and action.

Once we receive the patient back from their procedure we follow the post-operative observation guidelines until the patient is fully recovered. We can then proceed to complete the necessary discharge paperwork, looking into whether the patient will require referrals to specialist areas and/ or wound management services, and finally ensuring the patient is able to be safely discharged closely co-ordinating with hospital transport if the patient is unable to travel home via family members/ friends.

Should the patient not be fit for discharge and require further care post operatively, the nurse in charge would follow the Standards Operating Procedure to admit a patient. The patient will be identified and prepped to the In-Patient ward (Ward 11, 3 or 2C) and we will work closely with these areas in ensuring the patients safety is maintained throughout.

The **shift pattern** is Monday to Friday (except bank holidays) 0700 to 1930 (12 hour shifts) with 1 x 30 minute (unpaid) and 1 x 15 minute (paid) breaks.

We also cover the Vanguard day surgery unit located opposite Rosemere Cancer Centre. The unit comprises of 2 theatres and 2 recovery spaces. This unit is open from 0700 until the last patient leaves (generally between 1600 – 1800hrs), every week day except Thursdays. This unit is mainly for Plastic Surgery day cases that are being carried out under Local anaesthetic. In addition to this there are also special care dentistry and orthopaedic surgeries that are carried out under General anaesthetic.

The **contact telephone numbers** during working hours are 01772 522518 or 528368 and out of hours (ward 3) on 01772 522498

There are changing **facilities** on the ward and lockers may be available if requested. There is a kitchen with a refrigerator, microwave and hot water for drinks. There is a small staff room to eat meals in as well as a small tuck shop which has snacks and drinks available to purchase. There is also access to a small freezer.

On DoSAA/DCU, we are keen to maintain high standards of practice and will expect a similar effort from you. Listed below are **our expectation** in terms of what we can reasonable expect from you.

**Punctuality for work** – We expect you to be punctual for shift and any other activities arranged by your Practice Assessor. You are expected to notify the ward if you are unwell or unable to attend placement and email [learner.absences@lthtr.nhs.uk](mailto:learner.absences@lthtr.nhs.uk). It is also your responsibility to inform the university as per their own policy. If you are calling in sick in the late evening or early morning, please call Ward 3 (01772 522498) and leave a message with the nurse. Please take their name in case of any issues.

**Smart appearance and uniform** – We expect adherence to the university uniform policy and Lancashire teaching hospitals NHS Trust uniform policy. Please can you ensure you come to work in your own clothes and get changed on site into your uniform.

**Professional attitude and approach** – you must behave in a professional manner at all times. You may keep your phone in your pocket but this must only be used in an emergency and not generally used during working hours.

**Team working.**

**Maintain confidentiality** – It is expected that you will maintain confidentiality at all times. This is expected both in and out of the hospital environment, including any reflections or academic work you carry out.

**Involvement in daily unit activities.**

**Formulate/plan timescale for achieving skills with mentor** – We expect you to make your mentor aware of your learning outcomes and any specific needs you have. We encourage you to raise any issues regarding your placement with your mentor. If this is not possible, you can also discuss with the Unit manager or the Clinical Placement Support Team.

**The team** on DoSAA/DCU comprises of a unit manager, 4 x band 6's, 6 x band 5's, 2 x band 4's and 4 x band 3's. We work closely with Doctors/Consultants from various disciplines and have direct contact with anaesthetists, ODP's, theatre and recovery nurses. We also work with many specialist nurses and bed managers on a daily basis.

The **learning opportunities available** are Neuro Angio suite, Theatres, Nuclear medicine, Charles Beard Theatre and pain clinic. It may also be possible to spend time with the Specialist nurses for Neurosurgery, Head and Neck, Urology and Stoma nurses. You may also be able to observe certain procedures such as Renal Biopsies and Bronchoscopies.

**Medication** rounds are not carried out on the unit but it is still possible to administer medications on a PRN basis. Such medications include enemas, analgesia and antiemetics (either orally, as an IV infusion/bolus or PR application) It is also possible to give SC injections and assist in the setting up of Insulin sliding scales, Methylene Blue infusions and transfusion of blood products. All these will be carried out under the supervision of a trained member of staff.

You will learn many **transferable skills** whilst on DoSAA/DCU. You will learn how to admit a patient ahead of surgery and how to complete the relevant checklists including OPERA and risk assessments. You will be taught how to navigate FLEX/Evolve to find relevant information required pre and post operatively. You will speak directly with doctors and anaesthetist, building up confidence in dealing with other members of the multidisciplinary team. You will be given your own patients over the course of a shift and, with assistance from the DoSAA/DCU staff, be able to carry out a safe, nurse led discharge from the unit.

If there are any concerns, we expect the **Escalation of concerns** process to be followed. In the first instance, please talk to your colleagues and discuss ways in which the situation can be managed differently. Please raise the issue with your line manager and, if this is not possible, then please escalate to their line manager, so that things can be dealt with quickly. If your concern is something that can only be dealt with in confidence, then please remember we also have our Freedom to Speak up Guardian, who are there to help. The Safeguarding Team are available to provide consultation, support, advice, supervision and training across The Trust. The Datix system must be used to record any clinical incidents so that these can be properly investigated and lessons learned.



## Induction

The Local Induction process will take place throughout the first week of your placement.

This will comprise of:

- Trust and department orientation, including housekeeping information
- Location of emergency equipment
- IT access
- Reading & acknowledgement of Mandatory Trust policies such as Health & Safety, Fire Safety, Infection Control, Information Governance, Staff Code of Conduct, Social Networking and Dress Code policies.
- Adult Basic Life Support training if applicable
- Trust Moving & Handling Training if applicable
- COVID-related policies & procedure
- Orientation
- Professional voice: - freedom to speak up, datix, chain of command, open door policy
- An awareness of our Educational Governance Team- evaluation and importance of feedback
- Inter-professional Learning Sessions
- Practice Assessment Record and Evaluation (PARE) training, if applicable
- Collaborative Learning in Practice (CLiP™), if applicable
- How the role of Practice Development Facilitator can support you, where applicable



## What to bring on your first day

- Uniform: All other items in the dress code policy must be adhered to <https://legacy-intranet.lthtr.nhs.uk/search?term=uniform+policy>
- A smallish bag which would fit into a small locker.
- You may wish to bring a packed lunch and a drink on your first day.

## Inter-professional Learning Sessions and eLearning Resources

At our Trust, our Education Team facilitates a yearly programme of Inter-professional Learning (IPL) sessions. This programme consists of various teaching sessions, delivered by our Specialist Teams, to support and enhance our learners and trainees' learning experience with us.

Inter-professional learning is an important part of your development and allows you to build professional relationships and communication skills with the wider multi-disciplinary teams. Our IPL sessions are valuable in supporting you to stretch your knowledge and experiences to enhance your clinical practice. They also help bridge the gap between theory and practice, allowing you to hold a deeper understanding of the topics discussed. Our sessions are open for all learners and trainees on placement at our Trust to attend and these learning opportunities are an extension to your learning environment; therefore, these hours need to be recorded on your timesheets. We encourage our staff to facilitate enabling a learner/trainee to attend these sessions.

**Please note: You must inform your learning environment prior to attending a session.** These IPL sessions need to be discussed in a timely manner with your learning environment.

You are required to complete a reflection on each of your IPL sessions, as well as documenting on your HEI documentation what you have learnt and how this relates to your current placement.

You can book onto our IPL Sessions by accessing this link <https://elearning.lthtr.nhs.uk/login/index.php> and searching for 'IPL'.

You can access our policies and procedures via our Intranet page, which will help expand and stretch your knowledge.



## Support with evidencing your learning outcomes or proficiencies

We encourage you to use the Trust learning logs to collate and evidence your skills, knowledge and abilities achieved. You can then present your completed learning logs to your Practice Assessor/Educator during your assessment meetings. Any staff member who is involved in coaching you can complete your learning log feedback.

You can request time during your placement hours to complete these and request feedback prior to the shift ending. To obtain a copy of our learning logs, please visit our Health Academy Webpage on the link below, where you will see a copy of our CLiP™ Learning Log available for you to download, on the right hand side - <https://healthacademy.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/support/clinical-placement-support/collaborative-learning-in-practice-clip/>

## Chain of Command

Keeping patients safe, providing the best care that we can and learning in an environment where you feel safe and valued is important to us. Speaking up about any concern you have on your learning environment is also important. In fact, it's vital because it will help us to keep improving our services for all patients.

There may be occasions where we witness, experience or are asked to do something that causes us concern. Often, these concerns can be easily resolved, but sometimes it can be difficult to know what to do.

Our Clinical Placement Support Team are available Monday – Friday, 8.00am – 4.00pm should you need to contact them in relation to any concerns regarding your learning environment. If your concern relates to patient safety and/or your concerns are outside of these hours, please follow the chain of command in your learning environment and speak with the person in charge.

Please visit our Freedom to Speak Up page on the Intranet for more details.



## We value your feedback

Our Trust values your feedback. To continuously improve, we offer opportunities for our learners and trainees to provide feedback regarding both your learner experience and your learning environment. We would encourage you to kindly complete your end of placement evaluation, within your clinical hours.

We will keep you updated with the improvements that we make based on the feedback you provide us with.

## Learning Environment Improvement Forum

Our Learning Environment Improvement Forum began in November 2021, with key stakeholders attending; Learners, Trainees, Clinical Staff, Education Leads and our Nursing Directorate. Monthly meetings are held to share new and innovative ideas as to how we can collaboratively enhance our learning environments, to support both learners, trainees and staff.

All attendees at the Learning Environment Improvement Forums contribute their suggestions and guidance on our projects. Collaboratively, exciting improvements are implemented to enhance our learning environments.

Innovative changes made by our Learning Environment Improvement Forum, within Academic Year 2021-2022;

- NEW Learner Boards designed and placed on our learning environments
- Learner booklets made available on our Health Academy webpage to prepare our learners and trainees for their clinical placements, as suggested by our learners and trainees
- PARE and CLiP™ training embedded into our Learner and Trainee Inductions
- Quick Reference Guide designed and created to welcome our learners and trainees to the Trust and prepare them for their clinical placements

We welcome any of our staff, learners and trainees at the Trust to attend our Learner Environment Improvement Forums, to contribute your ideas and suggestions for our new and innovative projects. You can join via the E-Learning Portal - <https://elearning.lthtr.nhs.uk> and going to Courses, then selecting the tab 'Inter Professional Learning', where you will see our forum listed.