

## Specialty Training (ST5/6/7) 2025 Programme ‘Matching’ Information

\*(Not for Trainees already appointed to the Subspecialty Grid Programme)\*

Specialty training (previously level 3 training) is the final phase of the Paediatric training programme and is vitally important in the run up to and preparation for CCT. The indicative training time for the specialty programme remains 36months WTE. It is essential that allocated posts put you in a position to attain the required curricular capabilities.

It is important to consider your long term career plans. Please seek advice from your educational supervisor(s), the relevant CSAC (if you are interested in a subspecialty career or SPIN), and your college tutor. The Specialty Training Programme Directors are available to help with career advice. You may also wish to seek careers guidance from the Professional Support Unit.

\*Please note that the TPDs will not be able to guarantee any placements in advance of the matching process\*

### Specialty Training Rotational TPD Contact Details

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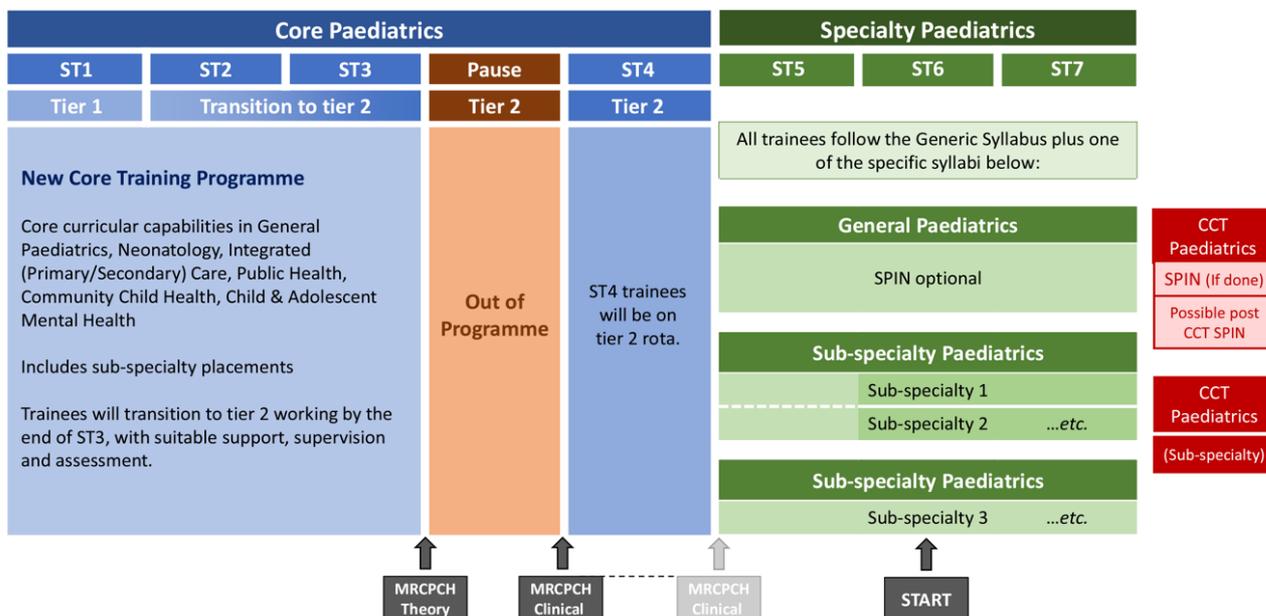
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### RCPCH Training Pathway

With the advent of shape of training in 2023, the training pathway will transition from a 3-level training programme to a 2 level training programme Core Paediatrics and Specialty Paediatrics below. The specialty programme remains 3 years WTE.



### **How will the 'Matching' Process work?**

The Matching process seeks to 'match' training requirements to training posts whilst trying to consider (where possible) individual trainee wishes including geography, and reasonable adjustments.

**\*The matching process does not apply to subspecialty trainees who have their posts allocated separately by the Subspecialty TPD\*.**

Please note that the Paediatric Specialty training programme is a **Pan-London training programme**. We are privileged to have many excellent training centres across London. This is one of the major advantages of training in London. Whilst we will try and consider trainees' geographical requests, it is possible that trainees will be placed in a different location depending on availability as we aim to prioritise training requirements.

### **General Paediatric Training**

Most trainees will intend to be General Paediatricians with or without a subspecialty interest. We will endeavor to allocate posts that best help prepare for that.

- 12-18 months (minimum-12 months) WTE placements in General Paediatrics in a hospital setting as close to the type of hospital you hope to eventually work in as a consultant. This is likely to be a district general hospital.
- 12-18 months undertaking some specialty training (including SPIN). This may involve placements in different posts which meet individual training needs/interests. We strongly advise that trainees do 6 months of Tertiary Neonatology to for the attainment of capabilities for neonatal DGH cross-cover/on call duties.
- A typical general paediatric training programme offering broad based solid training, may be: 6 months of PICU, 6 months of PEM, 6 months of Neonatology and 18 months of General Paediatrics (all times given as WTE).
- Specialty training also gives general paediatric trainees the opportunity to undertake a SPIN (Special Interest) module. The number of RCPCH approved SPIN modules are constantly reviewed, and trainees are strongly advised to read the information and relevant curricular requirements on the RCPCH website and discuss with the relevant CSAC adviser as well as one of the specialty TPDs if this is a career consideration.

Part of the SPIN module might be undertaken in a tertiary subspecialty setting, but the whole point of SPIN is that it can be delivered within District General Hospitals. For example – if a trainee wished to undertake the Diabetes SPIN – we will try to allocate one 6 month tertiary Endocrinology post (subject to availability) and then 6 months in a general paediatric setting working in a department with a designated consultant for diabetes.

**\*Please note that SPIN modules can be undertaken/ completed post-CCT\***

### **Subspecialty Training**

There are 17 accredited Paediatric Subspecialties: Neonatology, Rheumatology, Paediatric Emergency Medicine, Respiratory, Allergy, Gastroenterology/Hepatology, Diabetes and Endocrinology, Clinical Pharmacology, Community Child Health, Paediatric Intensive Care, Neurology, Immunology and Infectious diseases, Neurodisability, Oncology, Palliative Care, Metabolic Medicine and Child Mental Health.

If your career aim is to be a sub-specialist, you will need to competitively apply to the RCPCH National Training Subspecialty (Grid) Programme. You can apply for subspecialty training to during your ST4 year or in your ST5 and ST6 years, depending on the duration of the particular subspecialty.

We will try and place you in subspecialty-approved posts for your ST5 year which can be counted towards subspecialty training (or ST6 year if applicable). Prospective GRID applicants who want an approved post to count towards training **must** agree this **prospectively** with the relevant CSAC. If you are in your ST4 year and intending to apply to one of the subspecialty programmes that are less than 3 years training duration, we may not place you in the relevant subspecialty for the entire year as this is not necessary. If you are not successful in your application to the grid, you will need to re-enter the matching programme the next year.

### **The Matching Process**

All trainees are asked to submit their requests by completing the matching paperwork and submitting it by a set date (this is advertised on the School website and via email correspondence from the NHSE operations team).

A matching panel meets for 2-4 full days in late spring and late autumn to go through all the requests and to sort out placements. The panel consists of all the TPDs responsible for programme management.

**Trainees will be notified of their placements on the TiS system. This will be uploaded by Paediatrics Operations team 16 weeks prior to the start of their rotation.**

In cases where a trainee is not satisfied with their placements or perceives that an error has been made, they are invited to request a review of their placements. All the outstanding matching and review requests are reviewed at a final matching day in late April/ October respectively.

A trainee's placements can be reviewed at any stage during their Specialty training. This may be due to statutory leave, OOP and change in career plans.

**Trainees should please bear in mind that if they take a break from the training programme, change % working or decide to accelerate their training (fast-tracking), then it is likely that their indicative placements will change. We are unable to guarantee that resident doctors will be allocated the same placements but will aim to ensure that placements meet training needs.**

Trainees who would like changes made should contact one of the Specialty Training Programme Management TPDs to discuss the feasibility of changing posts.

In order to fulfil the obligations, set in the Junior Doctors Contract, all placements must be finalised 16 weeks before the rotational changeover date. We are therefore unable to make changes to placements after this cut-off period, except in exceptional cases.

Matching is a complicated process with hundreds of trainees to place. It can be difficult trying to ensure that training requirements as well as individual personal preference needs are met.

Over the years, therefore, we have developed a fair process in order to prioritise need. The panel makes placements in the following order:

1. All trainees intending to apply for subspecialty training are placed first as they ideally need to be given posts (or allied posts) in their chosen subspecialty. They will only be placed only for the ST5/6 year and will need to apply again for ST6-7 posts if they are unsuccessful in their sub-specialty application.
2. All trainees needing placements for the final year of their training only (ST7/ ST8(S3))
3. All trainees needing 2 years of training (ie ST6 & or ST7(S3) & ST8(S3))
4. All trainees needing placements for all 3 years (ST5-ST7)
5. Trainees requesting placement changes
6. Grace Placements. As these placements are post-CCT and do not count formally towards training, placements will only be made if there are vacant posts and likely to be general, rather than subspecialty posts. **\*If a trainee 'fast-tracks' to complete training early, they will be ineligible to apply for grace placements.\***

Please take time to discuss with your Educational Supervisor, College tutor and/or TPD as they will be able to give you valuable advice about your career.

Please do not worry about this process – we are always happy to review individual training programmes and make changes at a future date when and where possible. Whatever is planned at the Specialty Matching meeting is not set in 'tablets of stone'!

### **Training Posts**

Below is a list of Hospitals/Training Centres with the array of posts and training opportunities they offer. Please bear in mind that some trusts will have posts badged as specific subspecialties, but with busy rotas you cannot be guaranteed to have protected time in the subspecialty and you may need to arrange to sit in on extra clinics etc to get the full range of experience. Grid approved posts will be primarily geared toward subspecialty training but non-grid trainees may be placed in those posts depending on availability and career aims.

### **Acute Trusts**

#### Barnet Hospital

General with Neonatology

#### Chelsea and Westminster Hospital

General

Gastroenterology (Grid)

Endocrinology (Non-grid)

Neurology (Non-grid)

Neurodisability (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Paediatric Emergency Medicine(Grid)

Neonatology (Grid)

Croydon University Hospital  
General with Neonatology

Epsom Hospital

General with neonatology

General with Cardiology (this is generally reserved for trainees undertaking the European accreditation for Paediatricians with expertise in Cardiology)

Great Ormond Street Hospital

Dermatology

Endocrinology (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Immunology and Infectious Diseases (Grid)

Oncology (Grid)

Rheumatology (Grid)

Metabolic Medicine (Grid)

Neurodisability (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Neurology (Grid)

Palliative Care (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine (Grid)

Respiratory (Grid)

Nephrology (Grid)

\*Gastroenterology (Grid)

Guys' and St Thomas/Evelina Children's Hospital

General with a variety of subspecialties (including endocrinology, infectious diseases, sickle cell disease, high dependency care)

Nephrology (Grid)

Paediatric Emergency Medicine (Grid)

Neurology (Grid)

Neurodisability (Grid). *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Allergy (Grid). *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Metabolic Medicine (Grid)

Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine (Grid)

Neonatology (Grid)

Palliative Care Medicine with secondment to Royal Marsden (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Hillingdon Hospital

General with Neonatology

Homerton Hospital

General

Paediatric Emergency Medicine (Grid)

Neonatology (Grid)

Imperial – Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Hammersmith

Neonatology (Grid)

Imperial – St Mary's

General

General with Nephrology

Infectious Diseases (Grid)

Allergy (Grid). *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*  
Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine (Grid)  
Paediatric Emergency Medicine(Grid)  
Neurodisability (Non-grid)  
Neonatology (Non-grid)

King's College Hospital

General

Allergy (Grid). *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees* Endocrinology (Non-grid)  
Gastroenterology (Grid)  
Hepatology (Grid)  
Respiratory (Grid)  
Neonatology (Grid)

Kingston Hospital

General with Neonatology

Lewisham University Hospital

General with Neonatology

Newham General Hospital

General with Neonatology

North Middlesex Hospital

General with Neonatology

Northwick Park Hospital

General with Neonatology

Princess Royal Hospital, Bromley

General with Neonatology

Queens Hospital, Romford

General with Neonatology.

Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich

General

Special interests in Neonatology, Diabetes, Oncology and Sickle Cell disease, Epilepsy and Neurology, and Allergy

Royal Brompton Hospital

Respiratory(Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees* Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine (Grid *\*will not support those looking to gain cardiology skills*)

Royal London Hospital

General (with subspecialty interests in Haematology and Infectious diseases)

Paediatric Emergency Medicine (Grid)

Gastroenterology (Grid)

Endocrinology (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Allergy (Grid). *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees* Respiratory (Grid)

Neurology (Grid)

PICU (Not accredited for PICM subspecialty training)

Neonatology including Neonatal Transport (Grid)

Royal Marsden Hospital (Sutton site)

Oncology (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital (Stanmore)

General with an emphasis on physical rehabilitation and MDT working (Out of hours at Northwick Park Hospital). Arranged as a rotational placement with Northwick Park

St George's Hospital

General with Respiratory

Gastroenterology (Grid)

Infectious Diseases (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Neurology (Grid)

Endocrinology (Non-grid)

Neonatology (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

PICU (Non-grid)

St Helier Hospital

General with Neonatology

University College Hospital

General

General with Adolescent Health

Endocrinology (Grid) *\*Please note limited availability for non-grid trainees*

Oncology (Grid)

Neonatology (Grid)

West Middlesex Hospital

General with Neonatology

Whipps Cross Hospital

General with Neonatology

Whittington Hospital

General with Neonatology

**Child Public Health (CPH)**

Haringey (Out of hours at Whittington Hospital)

East London Foundation Trust (split equally between public health & community child health;

No formal OOH, can arrange ad hoc at Newham)

NorthWest London Hospitals NHS Trust (Out of hours at Northwick Park)

**Community posts (All Subspecialty accredited Posts)**

St George's

Lewisham

Guys' and St Thomas/Evelina Children's Hospital (Southwark / Lambeth)

Camden

City and Hackney

Brent

Northwick Park

Chelsea and Westminster

Ealing

Haringey (OOH currently being realigned)  
Islington  
Tower Hamlets  
Barking, Havering and Redbridge

**NB: Placements in Barnet, Hillingdon, Newham , Northwick Park, North Middlesex, Queens, Whipps Cross & Whittington will not specify whether this is in general paediatrics or on the neonatal unit. This will need to be discussed with the local college tutor. The general paediatric subspecialty curriculum includes capabilities in both general paediatrics and neonatal key capabilities and DGH placements aim to provide opportunities to fulfill both.**