

# Supporting prescribing rotations for NW Trainee Pharmacists in 2025/26

Information for General Practice and PCNs

Presented by:  
NHSE

# IETP Reform

Revised standards for the Initial Education and Training of Pharmacists (IETP). These include a set of new learning outcomes which:

- Promote enhanced clinical capabilities
- Facilitate MDT working
- Enable pharmacists to be independent prescribers at the point of registration

**The 2025/26 Foundation Training Year is the first year where all these new learning outcomes – including independent prescribing - will be used.**



# Why is this important?

These changes are key to the NHS Long Term Workforce Plan and aim to ensure we have a workforce which can deliver patient-centred services that are fit for the future through:



Recruitment & retention



Cross system working



Workforce development

# How can you support this process?

- Prescribing supervision and assessment is key during this year.
- This is particularly challenging for Trainee Pharmacists in Community Pharmacy
- Trainee pharmacists will need access to a Prescribing Learning Setting (PLS) and Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP).

**You can support by partnering with a community pharmacy employer to offer a prescribing rotation with access to a PLS and DPP.**





# What's in it for you?

- ✓ Securing a placement fee with your community pharmacy partner
- ✓ Utilising Trainee Pharmacists to support with workload, QOF indicators, and the DES.
- ✓ Maintaining the system's pharmacist workforce
- ✓ Creating a sustainable pipeline of pharmacists into your practices
- ✓ Providing development opportunities to upskill supervisory skills within your workforce
- ✓ Build and develop relationships with other healthcare providers in your local area
- ✓ Showcase primary care's place in healthcare

**Practices can also host multiple trainees at the same time. This provides economies of scale, increasing the benefits of hosting trainees without creating extra work.**

# Who can be a DPP

DPPs for Trainee Pharmacists undertaking prescribing as part of their Foundation Training must be:

- Registered independent prescribers
- In good standing with their professional regulator
- Active prescribers in a patient-facing role, with knowledge and experience which enables them to offer appropriate supervision and learning experiences

**The DPP does not need to be a pharmacist, however it may be beneficial if they have some experience of working with pharmacists.**



Prescribing Supervision and  
Assessment in the Foundation  
Trainee Pharmacist  
Programme from 2025/26

Version 1.2

17 January 2024

# Implementation

- The DPP is not required to directly supervise the trainee for their entire prescribing rotation and can delegate to appropriate team members.
- Prescribing rotations are likely to be 4-8 week placements, but this could vary depending on your specific arrangements
- There is no specific model for a prescribing rotation e.g., single blocks, regular attendance, or combinations of the two are all fine.

**Aim: by the end of their rotation, trainees will have completed all Prescribing Assessment Activities and are therefore suitable for registration as a prescriber.**



# Where can I find out more

- [Implementing the Foundation Pharmacist Training Year 2025/26.](#)
- [Prescribing Supervision and Assessment in the Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Programme from 2025/26.](#)
- Supporting prescribing rotations for NW Trainee Pharmacists in 2025/26 - Information for General Practice & PCNs

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact the NHS England North West Foundation Team at [england.WTEpharmacy.nw@nhs.net](mailto:england.WTEpharmacy.nw@nhs.net) and we will be more than happy to help.

The screenshot shows the NHS England website page for 'Workforce, training and education'. The page title is 'Implementing the Foundation Pharmacist Training Year 2025/26'. The main content area contains the following text:

In January 2021, the GPhC published the revised Standards for the [Initial Education and Training of Pharmacists](#). The first students to graduate against these new learning outcomes will start their foundation training year, previously known as the pre-reg year, in July 2025.

Some changes are already under way to prepare for this:

- Universities are rolling out revised MPharm undergraduate degrees that are aligned to the new learning outcomes and standards.
- We are taking on new responsibilities, delegated by the GPhC, for the quality management of all foundation training sites in England.
- Together with partners and stakeholders, we are working to develop our approach for the quality management of foundation training for trainees from summer 2025.

This page provides up-to-date information on the implementation of the new standards and learning outcomes in the foundation training year. Topics covered include: Getting ready for the Foundation Training Year 2025/26, Funding for the Foundation Training Year 2025/26 and frequent questions about funding.

**Update on England Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Programme 2025/26 Course Provision**

All Foundation Trainee Pharmacists (FTP) entering the programme in 2025 will have access to a core training offer provided by NHS England. Extensive stakeholder engagement across all sectors of practice via a series of workshops, it was determined that the NHS England offer should support delivery of the learning outcomes in practice.

The full specification is still subject to further development, but we can announce that this provision will cover the following:

- Induction Day to orientate trainees to the programme
- Establishment of communities of practice for trainees, to provide additional support to develop their **prescribing practice** (currently under exploration)
- Online learning materials to support delivery of the Learning Outcomes
- First Aid training

As this national offer applies to trainees across all sectors of practice, it should be noted that it **does not include training related to site-specific provision**. Therefore, it is expected that any training provision related to the specific needs of individual organisations or employers continue to be provided by them, to ensure that trainee pharmacists offer safe and effective patient care.

Further updates and details of the 2025/26 offer, which will be called the NHS England FTP Training Provision, will be provided in due course.



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**Thank You**