



England

NHS England Workforce, Training and Education: Pharmacy Programmes Update for Health and Justice

Dec 2024

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Reform to the Initial Education and Training of Pharmacists (IETP): Implementing 2025/26



Implementing the foundation pharmacist training year 2025/26

In January 2021, the General Pharmaceutical Council (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.

Changes are already under way to prepare for this:

- universities are rolling out revised master of pharmacy (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 all trainees from summer 2025

Via the tiles below, this page provides up-to-date information on the implementation of the new standards and learning outcomes in the foundation training year from 2025. Topics covered include:

- getting ready for the foundation training year 2025/26 including an indicative timeline of activities prior to trainees starting
- funding for the foundation training year 2025/26 and frequently asked questions about funding
- information about the training offer provision from 2025/26 onwards
- NHS England practice-based assessment strategy for 2025/26 onwards
- training plan template and guidance for 2025/26 onwards

To receive news by email about the initial education and training of pharmacists, please register via this [link](#).

[Getting ready for 2025/26](#) ▶

[Funding for foundation training in 2025-26](#) ▶

[Training offer provision](#) ▶

[Assessment strategy](#) ▶

[Training plans](#) ▶

Foundation Pharmacist Training Site Requirements for 2025/26

This document supplements the information provided in the [National Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment Scheme Terms of Participation](#)

1. Every training site must be entered into the Oriel/National Recruitment Scheme to be eligible for allocation of a foundation trainee pharmacist.
2. Employers must ensure that their allocated foundation trainee pharmacist follows an approved Training Plan that allows them to meet the [GPhC Full Learning Outcomes](#) for the Foundation Training Year
3. The trainee will be employed by the training site(s) for the duration of the foundation training period.
4. The training post must be of 52 weeks duration (if undertaken full-time)
5. Each foundation trainee pharmacist must have a Designated Supervisor, who meets the requirements set out by NHS England/GPhC, and is based at the primary training site / place of employment.
 - a. Where the training place includes a rotation of 13 weeks or more to another location, the training site must ensure that the trainee pharmacist has a named pharmacist to be the supervisor while on that rotation.
6. The trainee must have access to a Designated Prescribing Practitioner and a Prescribing Learning Environment
7. Any organisation can be the employer of the foundation trainee pharmacist (as long as all other requirements for provision of the learning environment are met). This includes but is not limited to:
 - a. NHS Managed Sector (e.g. Acute and Mental Health Hospitals)
 - b. Community Pharmacy (including Distance Selling pharmacy)
 - c. General Practice / Primary Care, including Health and Justice



8. A minimum of 26 weeks of this must be completed in a 'patient facing setting' which must be within one or more of the following:
 - a. Community Pharmacy (NOT distance selling pharmacy)
 - b. NHS Managed Sector (e.g. NHS Acute Trust, NHS Mental Health Trust)
 - c. General Practice/ Primary Care, including Health and Justice
 - d. Other Private, Independent and Voluntary Organisation employers where provision includes patient facing care that is commissioned by the NHS
9. The Training Plan must include access to a setting with a dispensary that is supervised by a GPhC registrant, for example:
 - a. Community pharmacy
 - b. NHS Managed Sector Pharmacy (e.g. Acute or Mental Health Trust with an on-site pharmacy dispensary)
 - c. Health and Justice with an on-site pharmacy dispensary

This **cannot** be a dispensary in a General Practice that is not a registered pharmacy.

National Recruitment Scheme (NRS) process for 2025/26

| Date | Activity | Notes |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| January 2024-March 2024 | Training sites entered into Oriel/NRS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must agree to terms of participation – agree that will provide access to DPP and prescribing learning environment • Do NOT need to identify who the DPP is and where the prescribing environment is • IF a multi-sector rotation is being including, must identify where this rotational site is |
| June 2024-October 2024 | Application and Preferencing | Applicants apply to the NRS and create their preferences; a list of sites in which they wish to train |
| September 2024-October 2024 | Assessments | Applicants undertake their recruitment assessment activity |
| December 2024 | Allocation | Employers informed of trainees allocated to their training programmes and begin contacting them ➤ Informed if graduated against old or new LOs |
| June 2025 | Submit supervisor details | Required to upload details of supervisors (Lead DS, additional DSs, DPPs) – declarations; outputs as e-portfolio access |
| Jul/Aug 2025 | Trainee starts / Training Plan upload | Upload Training Plan to e-portfolio |

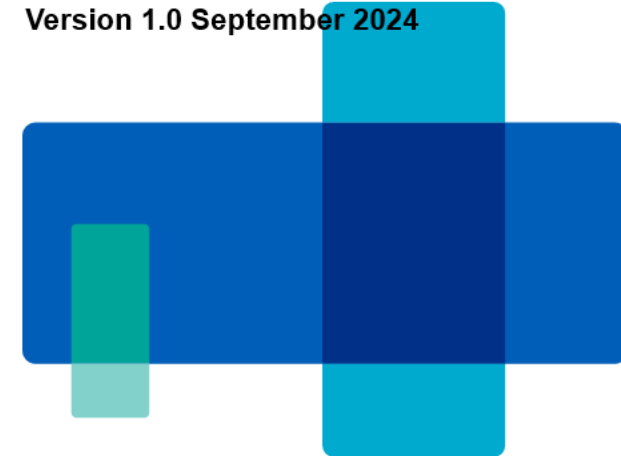
NHS England FTTP Practice-based Assessment Strategy (from 2025/26)

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Professional Development Activity Groups | Personal Development |
| | Supplying Medicines |
| | Education and Research |
| Observed Clinical Activity Groups | Mandatory and Specific Development |
| | Clinical and Patient Facing |
| | Prescribing |

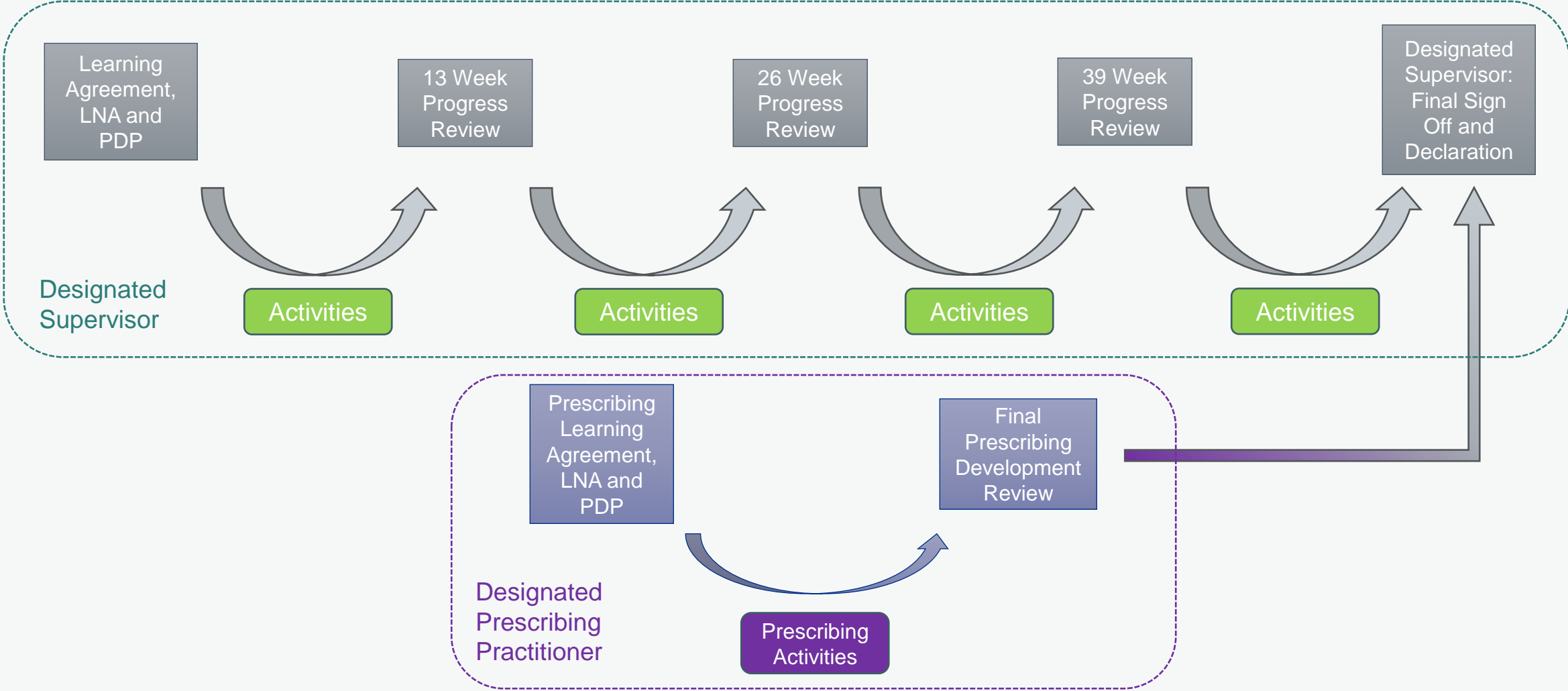


Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Programme: Practice-based Assessment Strategy (from 2025/26)

Version 1.0 September 2024



NHSE FTTP: Practice-based Assessment Strategy



Prescribing: Nominated Prescribing Area

1

Appropriate to the stage of training of a foundation trainee pharmacist

2

A clinical area relating to the provision of healthcare

3

An area that the DPP is sufficiently knowledgeable, skilled, and experienced to supervise within

4

An area within which the trainee is able to access patients with whom they can conduct consultations

5

Agreed by the DPP and Designated Supervisor

6

Recorded in the E-portfolio when the trainee starts

Prescribing Assessment Activities

| | |
|---|--|
| 24. History Taking | <p>Taking and documenting an appropriate medical, psychosocial and medication history including allergies and intolerances.</p> <p>This activity does not have to be completed in the nominated prescribing area as long as it does not progress to decision making and prescribing</p> |
| 25. Physical and Clinical Examination Skills | <p>Performing and documenting appropriate physical and clinical examinations to decide the most appropriate course of action for the person. Follows local policies and has undertaken the appropriate training to undertake the role.</p> <p>This activity does not have to be completed in the nominated prescribing area as long as it does not progress to decision making and prescribing</p> |
| 26. Prescribing Consultation | <p>Undertaking prescribing consultations that incorporate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Assessing the patient2. Identifying evidence-based treatment options available for clinical decision making3. Presenting options and reaching a shared decision4. Enacting a prescribing decision (which can include modification or deprescribing)5. Providing information and safety netting6. Recording, monitoring and reviewing <p>This activity must be completed within the nominated prescribing area.</p> |
| 27. Prescription Writing | <p>Safely prescribing (or deprescribing) medicines for patients whilst considering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application of relevant legislation and ethical decision-making related to prescribing• Use of relevant systems and frameworks for medicines use• Clinical governance• Using tools and techniques to avoid medication errors associated with prescribing <p>This activity must be completed within the nominated prescribing area.</p> |
| 28. Log of 90 Hours | <p>Accurately documenting learning hours attributable to development as a prescriber in practice. This log of hours should include all of the hours spent completing the other Prescribing Assessment Activities above, and any other learning activities that are planned/agreed between the DPP and trainee.</p> |



FTPP Training Plan

- Prior to the 2025/26 training year, training plans have been developed by organisations hosting foundation trainee pharmacists and submitted to the General Pharmaceutical Council as part of the training site approval process.
- From 2025/26, training plans will be submitted to NHS England, **by the lead Designated Supervisor via the e-portfolio during July 2025.**
- From the 2025/26 FTTP, the training plan does not form the basis on which a training site is approved by NHS England. Site approval by NHS England is made on the basis of agreement to the National Recruitment Scheme (NRS) Terms of Participation and the associated declarations.
- As part of the NRS Terms of Participation, all training sites agree to complete and submit a training plan in line with NHS England requirements
- The purpose of the training plan is to provide assurance that the site/s can support the foundation trainee pharmacist through the use of the NHS England Assessment Strategy and e-portfolio, to enable them to demonstrate their development and sign-off against the GPhC Learning outcomes.

Find out more and get in touch

To receive news by email about the initial education and training of pharmacists, please complete this form: <https://healtheducationyh.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/register-for-ietp-updates>

Engage with the Assessment Strategy and E-portfolio: www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/trainee-pharmacist-foundation-year-programme

Bookmark the NRS/Oriel site: www.lasepharmacy.hee.nhs.uk/national-recruitment/

Email address: england.traineepharmacist@nhs.net

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Education and training
01 March 2024


By **Charlotte L. Richardson**

Entrustable professional activities: a new approach to supervising trainee pharmacists on clinical placements

Changes to General Pharmaceutical Council education standards mean there is an increasing need for meaningful placement experiences in which trainees can practise their skills and demonstrate competence. Entrustable professional activities are a valuable tool for trainees and their supervisors.



A toolkit to support the use of Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) in MPharm degrees in England





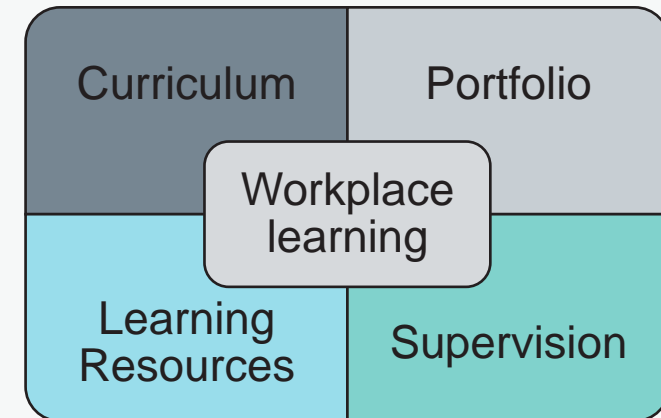
England

Newly Qualified Pharmacist Pathway



What are the key elements of the NQP pathway?

- Curriculum
 - RPS [Post-registration foundation curriculum](#) (four pillars of practice)
- Portfolio
 - Access to an e-portfolio delivered by the RPS
 - Alternative e-portfolios may be used if they are mapped to the correct curriculum
- Resources
 - Via the [online resource library](#)
- Access to supervision
 - Workplace (funding offered per learner)
 - or provided via CPPE





Thank you