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**University of Glasgow**

**Dental School**

**Code of Professional Conduct and Fitness to Practise**

***BDS Students***

**Introduction**

A student who is registered for the programme of study leading to the degree of BDS is required during practical training to act in a quasi-professional role in relation to patients and therefore, as a condition of continuation in the programme, undertakes to comply with the principles of this Code of Professional Conduct and Fitness to Practise.

**Purpose of the Code**

Compliance with the Code aims to:

* protect present or future patients;
* comply with the requirements of the General Dental Council (GDC)
* protect the health and wellbeing of the student;
* protect the University of Glasgow against legal action brought by someone claiming to have suffered loss as a result of the student proving, during training or after qualifications, to be unfit to practise.

**Core Values**

* The habit of truth;
* Respect for others;
* Caring;
* Partnership;
* Creativity;
* Social justice.

A student matriculated on the programme of study leading to the degree of BDS is expected to adhere to these values.

**Professional Conduct**

* The expectations of the Dental School with respect to professional conduct are derived from the GDC documents ‘Standards for the Dental Team’; and ‘Student Professionalism and Fitness to Practise’ (two documents, entitled ‘Introduction for Student Dental Professionals’ and ‘Guidance for Students’). Both documents can be found in the BDS Handbook in MOODLE.

To summarise, BDS students at the University of Glasgow are expected to:

* conduct themselves in a manner which the public might reasonably expect of a professional person (this includes complying with the Dental School Dress Code);
* make the safety and care of patients their first concern;
* treat every patient politely and with consideration;
* respect each patient’s right to privacy and dignity;
* listen to patients and respect their views;
* give clear and appropriate explanations to patients;
* develop and practise the use of their skills and knowledge to the best of their ability;
* recognise and act within the limits of their competence;
* be honest and trustworthy in their personal and professional lives;
* respect and protect confidential information;
* comply with all relevant documents and policies in relation to mobile devices and media (in particular, where mobile device use is permitted in clinical areas for educational purposes no photography, sound or video recording is allowed and no patient details should be captured). GDC guidance on using social media is available in the BDS Student Handbook on Moodle.
* ensure that their personal beliefs do not prejudice their dealings with patients;
* treat colleagues with courtesy and respect;
* in the event that they have good reason to believe that they or a colleague might not be fit to practise (see below), report this to the Dental School;
* not abuse the trust of patients;
* wear photographic identification badges at all times when in the Dental Hospital & School (including lectures, tutorials, preclinical skills facilities, common room and corridors, we well as in clinics).
* only access NHS systems and data, including patient identifiable information, when necessary to support clinical treatment and related activity. This includes accessing your own personal medical information. Such access is provided for approved purposes only and both the systems accessed and the information available should not be misused in any way. Student should comply with all relevant policies and documents regarding access to and use of NHS IT systems.
* comply with the requirements of the courses which constitute the BDS programme, as set out in the University Regulations and Course Information Documents.

**Conflict of Interest**

It is imperative that dental students demonstrate a high level of integrity. If a student is placed in a situation where actual or potential conflicts of interest, of a financial, ethical, legal or other nature, arise between their personal interests and their studies then they must disclose this.

If a student is unsure about whether a particular situation amounts to a conflict of interest (actual or potential), they should disclose that situation.

Students engaging with a private company offering paid-for-services relating to dental school admissions may be considered a conflict of interest. Furthermore, this could also be in breach of fitness to practice rules.

**Fitness to Practise**

To be considered fit to practise a BDS student must:

* Uphold the highest standards of personal and professional conduct as set out in this document; in the GDC documents entitled ‘Standards for the Dental Team’; and ‘Student Professionalism and Fitness to Practise’ (two documents, entitled ‘Introduction for Students Dental Professionals’ and ‘Guidance for Students’).
* Have no mental or physical impairment likely to jeopardise the wellbeing of patients.

**Declaration**

I have read and understood this Code of Professional Conduct and Fitness to Practise. I agree, whilst a matriculated BDS student of the University of Glasgow, to comply with its term. I understand that if I am found to be in breach of its terms I may be referred for consideration under the University’s Fitness to Practise procedures outlined in the University regulations as follows: <https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/senateoffice/policies/uniregs/regulations2019-20/feesandgeneral/studentsupportandconductmatters/reg36/>

I also confirm that I have read and understood the Rules and Regulations document for the Anatomy Facility and that breach of regulation may result in disciplinary procedures. I also confirm that if any of the restrictions applies to me and/or if I have any concerns about my ability to adhere to any aspect of these rules, I will discuss this with the Professor in Anatomy as a matter of urgency. Finally I consent to the University of Glasgow storing and processing my personal data in relation to this matter.

**Name:**

**Signature:**

**Date:**