

Ref no: 136141118
From: Commercial
Date: 14/11/18
Subject: Orthoptic Work Experience

REQUEST

I have been seconded into a post funded by the Office for Students as part of the Strategic Interventions in Health Education Disciplines programme. My role is to explore barriers prospective Orthoptic students face when trying to secure a work experience/shadow placement in Orthoptic departments in England.

To understand current practices I would like to request the following information:

1. How many applications for Orthoptic work experience did your Trust receive in
 - a) Sept 2016 - Sept 2017
 - b) Sept 2017 - Sept 2018
2. How many applications resulted in a work experience placement?
3. What is the minimum age for work experience in Orthoptics?
4. Do applicants for work experience in Orthoptics require a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check?
5. What paperwork are applicants required to complete?
6. Are applicants required to complete an induction?

RESPONSE

1. How many applications for Orthoptic work experience did your Trust receive in
 - a) Sept 2016 - Sept 2017
 - b) Sept 2017 - Sept 2018

Less than 5

Prior to April 2018 central records of work placements were not collected so we are unable to provide this level of detail. For the period

April 2018 to September 2018, we have no records of applications for Student Orthoptist placements.

2. How many applications resulted in a work experience placement?
As above we are unable to answer this question.

Less than 5

3. What is the minimum age for work experience in Orthoptics?

The Trust accepts applications for work placements from individuals aged 16 and above. In order to meet its safeguarding responsibilities, the Trust restricts access to certain areas based on age owing to the sensitive and potentially distressing nature of some of the Trusts services.

4. Do applicants for work experience in Orthoptics require a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check?

No, as placements would be in a purely observational capacity and not participating in the delivery of patient care, they would be under the direct constant supervision of a qualified staff member.

5. What paperwork are applicants required to complete?

The Trust has an agreed application process and supporting policy for all work placement activity including an electronic application form.

6. Are applicants required to complete an induction?

All attendees at work placement would be required to undertake a local induction as a minimum. Any placement in excess of 2 weeks duration would be expected to complete a full corporate induction.