WAMS
WIDENING ACCESS TO MEDICAL SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS
2017-2018

Students’ Union
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM
Welcome to WAMS!

We at WAMS (Widening Access to Medical School) are a group of medical students from the University of Nottingham who are passionate about helping pupils from diverse backgrounds who have an interest in a career in medicine.

We believe that every student that aspires to become a doctor should be given the opportunity to reach their potential. Through the support we provide, the aim is to bridge the ‘opportunity gap’ that can often arise as a result of differing socio-economic backgrounds. Our belief is that the medical profession should as far as possible, reflect the society it serves. The medical workforce will be better for it and so will the society it cares for.

I am delighted to take over the position of President after WAMS has enjoyed a highly successful 2017. Our dedicated team of schools and events co-ordinators have worked hard to create inspiring and innovative sessions, seeking to raise aspirations and offering practical information to help strengthen applications to Medical School. WAMS is now in communication with a further 15 schools since 2016, working with a total of 41 schools in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. The extremely popular e-mentor scheme offers valuable 1:1 mentoring to students in our local area. What is more, our work experience week saw 22 students gain valuable ‘hands on’ experience at QMC and City hospitals. Another proud achievement is the strengthening of partnerships with external bodies such as the Medical Schools Council, the Widening Participation team at the University of Nottingham and TeachFirst. I am highly looking forward to working with a great new WAMS committee to build on the successes of 2017.

We at WAMS are so proud of all the services we provide, outlined in this booklet, which are all, of course, free of charge. If you’re interested in becoming a doctor, want to get involved in what we do, or would like to find out more, then please don’t hesitate to get in touch – we are always happy to help!

Sofia Spencer

WAMS President 2017-2018

president@wamsnottingham.com
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Why Nottingham?

The University of Nottingham is internationally recognised for research and teaching excellence, and is proud to provide a strong support network for its students. Located in the centre of England, Nottingham is a vibrant and versatile city, making it an exciting place to spend your student days.

Medicine is the study of diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of illnesses and diseases. Doctors must be patient-focused, caring and dedicated. It is a demanding yet extremely rewarding profession, giving you the opportunity to improve people’s health and even save lives.

There are a variety of career paths for qualified doctors. You could be working in the community as a GP or be based in a hospital working as a specialist doctor, consultant or surgeon. To find out more about the vast range of roles available, see the NHS health careers webpage. Studying medicine at Nottingham allows you to;

- Learn anatomy through hands-on experience at one of the few universities in the UK to offer full-body dissection
- Benefit from early interaction with patients through visits to general practices and hospitals
- Complete an integrated BMedSci, allowing you to undertake a research project in an area you find interesting
Requirements for Nottingham

Fact file - 2018: Undergraduate Entry
from http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/courses/medicine/bmbs-medicine.aspx

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification at the end of the degree</th>
<th>Medicine</th>
<th>BMedSci</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCAS Code</td>
<td>A100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>5 years full time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Level Offer</td>
<td>AAA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required subjects</td>
<td>A in chemistry and biology at A level to include a pass in practical assessments where assessed separately; third A level at grade A in any subject except general studies, critical thinking, citizenship studies and global perspectives.</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

GCSE: At least six GCSEs (or equivalent) at grade 7 (A) including chemistry, physics and biology or double science; and grade 5 (B) in English language and maths. Applied science is not accepted.

Graduates: 2:1 degree in any subject plus A levels as above.

UKCAT: candidates must take the UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) test during the same year as an application is made. For more information, please refer to the UKCAT website www.ukcat.ac.uk

Applications for 2019/20 should be made via UCAS www.ucas.com between 1 September 2018 and the deadline of 15 October 2018.

IB score 36 (6, 6, 6 at Higher Level including biology and chemistry, excluding core component)

Course location The University of Nottingham Medical School, Queen's Medical Centre and hospital trusts and general practices in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Lincolnshire

Course places 206 (plus 25 international and 25 progressing from the foundation course)

Typical Year 1 Modules:

**Scientific Basis of Medicine:** This module contributes to developing an understanding of the scientific basis of clinical practice. In particular the module aims to develop knowledge and understanding of fundamental biochemical, physiological and anatomical concepts and their relation to disease processes. This is delivered by lectures, popular topics, directed reading, private study, workshops and practical classes. The theme-based content will include: Cells, Biochemical Basics, Tissues of the Body, Muscle, Nerves, Pharmacology, Blood and Infection, Reproduction, Inflammation and Metabolism.

**Respiratory and Cardiovascular Medicine:** This module provides an introduction to the basic anatomy and physiology of the respiratory and cardiovascular systems together with fundamentals in haematology, in terms of physiological control mechanisms, the pathophysiology and pharmacological approaches to treating common disease states. This is delivered by lectures, popular topics, directed reading, private study, workshops, practical classes and hospital and general practice clinical visits.
Fact file - 2018: Foundation Entry

**Qualification at the end of the degree:** Medicine with a Foundation Year | BMedSci

**UCAS Code:** A108

**Duration:** 6 years full time UG (yr 1 foundation)

**A Level Offer:** BBC

**Required subjects:** Three A levels, studied over a two year period, including B grades in chemistry and biology with a pass in science practical tests, if assessed separately and excluding general studies, critical thinking, citizenship studies and global perspectives. At least five GCSEs at grade B, to include biology, chemistry, English language, maths and physics (or science double or triple award); applied science is not accepted; UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT); candidates must sit the UKCAT test before making their application through UCAS; for more information, please refer to the UKCAT website.

**IB score:** 28 (5, 5, 5 at Higher Level including biology and chemistry) including a minimum of five grade B GCSEs to include biology, chemistry, physics (or dual science), maths and English language.

**Course location:**
- **Foundation year:** Royal Derby Hospital
- **Years one to five:** The University of Nottingham Medical School, Queen’s Medical Centre and hospital trusts and general practices throughout the East Midlands

**Course places:** 27

**Typical Year 0/Foundation Year Modules:**

**Cells and Tissues:** This module considers the particulars of cell and tissue biology. You will explore a number of topics including: prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell structure and function, organelles, biological membranes, cell division, transport across membranes, and tissue types. For this module you will have a blended mix of taught classes, laboratory practicals, independent study exercises and e-learning, totalling around 30 hours of contact time in the autumn semester.

**Biological Molecules:** This module is concerned with biological molecules. The content covered in this module includes: water, carbohydrates, lipids, amino acids, protein, nucleic acids, vitamins, and minerals. For this module you will have a mix of taught classes, laboratory practicals, completion of workbooks, e-learning and self-directed learning totalling 30 hours in the autumn semester.

**Human Genetics:** This module considers aspects of medical genetics. You will consider genetic variation, inheritance, mutation, cloning and gene therapy. For this module you’ll have a combination of taught classes, completion of workbooks and e-learning totalling 21 hours over the course of the autumn semester.

**Introduction to Microbiology:** This course will provide an introduction to basic microbiology. It will cover fundamental aspects of the structure, growth, replication and significance of major groups of microbes with emphasis on bacteria and viruses. Nutritional and physical requirements for growth, propagation and measurement of growth as well as procedures for killing microbes will be dealt with. Students will also be introduced to the topics of infectious disease and the significance of microbiology to industry. In practical sessions students will learn aseptic technique, routine light microscopy, basic skills in handling, growing, isolating and identifying bacteria, and general safe laboratory techniques. The module has 42 hours of contact time.
Fact file - 2018: Graduate Entry Medicine

http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/courses/medicine/graduate-entry-medicine-bmbs.aspx

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification at the end of the degree</th>
<th>Graduate Entry Medicine</th>
<th>BMBS 4 years full time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCAS Code</td>
<td>A1081</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>4 years full time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Level Offer</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required subjects</td>
<td>Minimum of a lower second-class degree in any discipline. Applicants must apply through UCAS using course code A101 and institution code N84 (the closing date is 15 October 2017). In addition you must have taken the GAMSAT examination before you apply.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IB score</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course location</td>
<td>Royal Derby Hospital, hospital trusts and general practices throughout the East Midlands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course places</td>
<td>93 (Home/EU)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Typical Year 0/Foundation Year Modules:

Problem-Based Learning Course: Following the first 18 months, you will join A100 BMBS Medicine students to undertake the clinical phases. Please visit the BMBS Medicine prospectus page for module details.

The modules we offer are inspired by the research interests of our staff and as a result may change for reasons of, for example, research developments or legislation changes. The above list is a sample of typical modules we offer, not a definitive list.

Clinical and Professional Development 1 and 2: This module aims to introduce you to the knowledge, skills and attitudes that you will require to practice clinical medicine. These are a necessary pre-requisite for practising clinical medicine; the OSCE exam and the module overall must be passed to continue your studies.

In part two, you will practice basic clinical skills within the context of the professional settings and framework in which you will work. Clinical attachments in primary and secondary care are supported by regular seminars and practical sessions in order to introduce, rehearse and reinforce relevant knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Following the first 18 months, you will join A100 BMBS Medicine students to undertake the clinical phases. Please visit the BMBS Medicine prospectus page for module details.

The modules we offer are inspired by the research interests of our staff and as a result may change for reasons of, for example, research developments or legislation changes. The above list is a sample of typical modules we offer, not a definitive list.
School Visits

Our dedicated team of Schools Officers provide bespoke school visits to meet your needs. Whether this is giving students who aren’t sure what they want to do a taste of Medicine or providing more specific support to those thinking of applying or in the application process, we can help.

What do we do?

> Presentations on UKCAT, BMAT
> Presentations on applying to medical school
> Personal Statement help
> Clinical Skills Sessions
> Interview Practice

“Thank you to the three students who came to our school. They were fabulous and very engaging. The pupils loved the activities and found the session very worthwhile. Your students were fantastic ambassadors for the University and inspired the pupils to be more aspirational.”

“The WAMS girls were really funny and down to earth which made me realise that becoming a doctor could actually be possible. They answered all our questions and gave me information I don’t think I could have got from anywhere else. Thank you so much!”

We provide a range of elements from presentations on the UKCAT and personal statements to clinical skills sessions and interview practice. Our Schools Officers all have first-hand experience of the difficulties and stress that applying to medical school can bring and are therefore able to give advice on the dos and don’ts.

Feedback from staff and students has been very positive.

Who to contact?

> Send an email to schoolsofficers@wamsnottingham.com.
And a member of the team will get in touch with your school.
Work Experience

Our work experience programme is aimed at Year 12 students and offers 30 students the opportunity to shadow final year medical students from the University of Nottingham. This year, it will be held in July at the QMC and/or City Hospital in Nottingham. The week includes a mixture of classroom based sessions, skills teaching and practical exposure to wards and theatres. The programme is the perfect opportunity for anyone struggling to gain work experience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AM</td>
<td>Induction &amp; basic skills</td>
<td>Skills session</td>
<td>Ward time talking to patients</td>
<td>Interview skills session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Introduction to the wards</td>
<td>Time in surgery</td>
<td>Ethics workshop</td>
<td>Ward time observing a ward round</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Whilst competition is fierce, it is a fantastic programme that students find really enjoyable. A lot of work goes into designing the programme to be more than just a shadowing opportunity. It is free of charge, although you will need to provide your own lunch, transport and smart clothes.

I really enjoyed my week! I was able to gain insight into what medicine is like, from the eyes of students and doctors. My mentor provided me with great advice, interview and personal statement tips. Thank you!

Applications via our website open in SPRING 2018. Please note that local students will be given priority.
E-mentoring

eMentoring is an exciting opportunity to have a medical student mentor help you with your applications to medical school.

WHAT ARE E-MENTORS?

Our eMentoring scheme puts students in contact with a current medical student at the University of Nottingham for one-to-one mentoring and advice in all aspects of their university application, exams, and transition to university. The eMentors have lots of experience and remember how stressful and confusing applications can be – and are keen to help!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The scheme is aimed at Year 11 and 12 students, but Year 13 students can also participate if they are applying to university in the following year. Students can keep their eMentors for as long as they need them, right up to when they start university.

eMentoring is conducted through our moderated email system, with all messages monitored by eMentor Coordinators. All eMentors receive training for the role, including safeguarding training.

Students can apply for eMentoring at any time by visiting our website.
INTRODUCTION TO MEDICINE
An interactive evening focused on the various aspects of medicine as a degree and as a career. Meet other like-minded students and discover whether medicine is right for you!
FOR: YEARS 9-12
WHEN: FEBRUARY 2018

GUIDE TO APPLICATION
An overview of the complete application process, focussing on areas such as making the most of your application, a brief guide to acing your personal statement and an introduction to admissions tests.
FOR: YEARS 10-12 (Preference to Year 12 students)
WHEN: MARCH 2018

UKCAT AND BMAT EVENING
An in-depth guide to the UKCAT and BMAT including a step-by-step guide to each section, mock questions and an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the test.
FOR: YEAR 12
WHEN: LATE JUNE-SEPTEMBER 2018

PERSONAL STATEMENT EVENING
A presentation on personal statements and the opportunity to have yours read and reviewed with advice from current medical students.
FOR: YEAR 12
WHEN: LATE JUNE 2018

MOCK MMI EVENING
An opportunity to take part in a simulated MMI with time afterwards for feedback and to ask current medical students any questions.
FOR: YEAR 12
WHEN: NOVEMBER 2018

Follow us on facebook (WAMS Nottingham) or check our website http://www.wamsnottingham.com for specific dates closer to the time!
For more information, go to
www.wamsnottingham.com
Or send an email to
enquiries@wamsnottingham.com