



OXFORD  
HIGH SCHOOL  
GDST

# Programme for Aspiring Clinical Professionals

**Careers at OHS**



# Programme for Aspiring Clinical Professionals

The programme for Aspiring Clinical Professionals at Oxford High School aims to provide comprehensive guidance and support through the process of making a medical, veterinary or dentistry application. These degrees are notable not only for the competitiveness of the entry process, but also for the multiple facets involved in a successful application. Key aspects of the programme are set out below.

## The OHS Support Programme:

<b>Year 11/12</b>	<b>Clinical Experience</b>  Students should ideally aim to gain experience in a range of clinical settings, from hospitals to GP surgeries. Whilst work experience can be hard to secure, we advise and assist in finding opportunities, and help students look into alternatives such as online 'virtual' work experience and other schemes. We also support them in reflecting on their clinical experiences and how these inform their applications.
<b>Year 11/12/13</b>	<b>Voluntary or paid customer-facing work</b>  Medical schools emphasise that applicants should be able to demonstrate the ability and willingness to deal with the public. If work can be gained in a caring context (eg: a care home, hospice or childcare facility) this is excellent, but equally a weekend job at a pharmacy, a charity shop or even in McDonalds, can be used to illustrate the skills, behaviours and empathy required of medical professionals. We support students in finding opportunities, and help them to reflect on the key takeaways from their experience.
<b>Year 12/13</b>	<b>Support for Clinical Professionals Club</b>  This Club meets weekly through Year 12 and into Year 13. It is the primary support network for candidates, and also a forum for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussion of current medical headlines and issues;</li><li>• Examination of ethical issues arising in medicine;</li><li>• Recommendations for, and reviews and discussion of, wider reading;</li><li>• Preparation for university pre-admissions tests (see below);</li><li>• Conference organisation and research opportunities (see below);</li><li>• Reflection on progress and prompts to next steps.</li></ul>
<b>Year 12</b>	<b>Medical Conference</b>  Year 12 students have the opportunity to organise a medical conference in the Spring Term. This is a fantastic way to demonstrate super-curricular involvement, organisational and communication skills, and above all teamwork. Students are supported in choosing who they want to invite, handling correspondence and logistics, and running the conference (introducing speakers, handling Q&As etc) on the day. The conference is open to schools nationwide, and last year over 1800 students across the country attended online.

<b>Year 12</b>	<p><b>Medical Myriad</b></p> <p>Year 12 students who are interested in independent research and writing are supported and guided to produce an annual medical magazine. This can reflect their particular interests and passions, but usually includes a range of articles on medical and scientific issues, interviews and Q&amp;As with doctors and other healthcare professionals and reviews of relevant books, lectures and articles. This is a great way to demonstrate commitment beyond the curriculum and the ability to conduct thorough, high-quality research.</p>
<b>Year 12/13</b>	<p><b>External Speakers and Mentors</b></p> <p>Throughout the year, speakers are invited to share their experiences with students and to offer advice and guidance. Frequently, alumnae who are currently in medical school or have qualified as doctors will come back to OHS to support the next generation. There is also the chance to connect with, and learn from, alumnae across the wider GDST network. These are valuable opportunities for 1-to-1 mentoring and support for our students.</p>
<b>Year 12/13</b>	<p><b>Support for UCAT and BMAT (and its replacement!)</b></p> <p>Students are offered support, advice and guidance with regard to pre-admissions testing – which universities require what, the necessary thresholds for success, how to be strategic in your applications etc. Alongside this, we offer technical support in preparing for the tests themselves from an specialist external provider, including online preparation and revision materials as well as a full-day workshop.</p>
<b>Year 13</b>	<p><b>Interview practice</b></p> <p>Whether students are facing a traditional panel interview or an MMI (multiple mini interview) format, we offer extensive preparation and support through the process, including information around structure, common question banks and practice interviews.</p>
<b>Year 11/12/13</b>	<p><b>One-to-one Guidance</b></p> <p>Underpinning all of the above is our ongoing commitment to ensuring that all our students find the pathway that offers the best possible match for them and will enable them to thrive, succeed and realise their ambitions beyond school. The Head of Careers, working closely with the Head of Science, is always available to meet with students one-on-one to discuss their options and aspirations throughout the process, and to help them achieve their goals.</p>



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