

# FAQs for Teachers

## What is my role in my pupil's application?

Form tutors and teachers are often the first point of contact for students, as they rely on your support and guidance to make decisions for the future. Normally, they will ask form tutors for help with their **personal statement**, and some university-application software that schools utilise (such as Unifrog) even allow teachers to make notes on students' personal statements. If you teach at 6th Form level, you might also be asked to write a **letter of reference** for pupils applying to university. This should be as personal as possible, outlining what skills and abilities the student has, and why they should be considered for medical school. If you are writing more than one letter of reference, please make sure you differentiate them, and try to avoid using templates, so that your input can be more bespoke to the student in question.

If you are a Y12 form tutor, we have created a form-time presentation that you can show to your form or students who are interested in medicine. You can also give them our [School Information Page](#), which contains all the information they need to apply to Imperial.

We understand that this process can be lengthy and sometimes challenging, so please feel free to contact us at [feo-admissions-interviews@imperial.co.uk](mailto:feo-admissions-interviews@imperial.co.uk) if you have any questions.

## How can I help my pupils/tutees with their personal statement?

The personal statement should outline the motivation for choosing a career in medicine. Students should write about any relevant educational achievements (for example, winning a competition, or the successful completion of an online course), transferable skills gained from their formal education, their personal skills, and any experience that could relate to the medical profession. We value an understanding of the medical profession and the role of medicine and doctors in the community.

## What about work experience?

We appreciate that it is not always possible for students to secure clinical work experience. Therefore, applicants should not worry that the absence of clinical experience will make their application less competitive at Imperial. What matters more is the ability to reflect on any experience - whether in school, through practical projects, or in other work environments such as retail or hospitality - where they have demonstrated or observed skills essential to the medical profession. These might include, for example, communicating sensitively and showing empathy when delivering difficult news.

It is valuable for applicants to show an understanding of the realities of working as a healthcare professional and to demonstrate the skills and attributes required for their chosen career.

In addition, we encourage applicants to keep a reflective diary. This can include what they enjoyed during their work experience, challenges they encountered and how they overcame them, the role of communication, how they developed their interpersonal skills, and their ongoing commitment to

medicine. Reflective ability is an important quality shared by excellent healthcare professionals, and keeping a diary can also help applicants draw on relevant examples during their interviews.

Online resources can give you valuable insight into working in the healthcare sector and outline the wide range of careers and courses available.

- [NHS Health Careers website](#)
- [Working in Health YouTube Channel](#)

### **How is Imperial College different from other medical schools?**

Imperial College School of Medicine is one of the largest schools in the country, training more than 2000 students in Medicine and Medical Biosciences. Our programmes are delivered at four main campuses in West London, as well as at a wide range of partner hospitals and general practices.

The Faculty of Medicine has an international reputation for excellence, routinely ranking among the world's top five in the sector. The School leverages that excellence to provide a unique, research-led student experience in Medicine and Health Sciences. Learning from international experts and undertaking research under their supervision in an inspirational setting will provide an enviable, world-class training in which to prepare for a career in the NHS, academia or related industries.

You can find all the information about Imperial College School of Medicine MBBS programme in our [Medicine Prospectus](#).

### **Where can I find information about MMIs?**

We have a dedicated page covering [MMIs at Imperial College London](#). The webpage contains useful information about the MMI process, the interview stations, and how to prepare. One effective way for teachers to support students is by practising empathy and ethics scenarios in class or during form time.

### **When is the UCAS deadline?**

All applications must be submitted by **15 October**. Every year the deadline is published on the [UCAS website](#), and there is a bespoke section on medicine subjects, which can be useful for you and your students.

### **What about disadvantaged pupils?**

Imperial College is committed to widening participation, and we want disadvantaged pupils to be able to prepare for their application early. This is why we think that Y10 and Y11 pupils should receive this information pack too. You could encourage your students to undertake their Y10 work experience in the health sector, and make sure they know they need a GCSE Grade B (Level 6), or equivalent, in English Language to apply to Imperial. We also have a webpage dedicated to [taking a Gap Year before a medicine degree](#). Some students might find it beneficial to take a year off before they start their degree.