

Bridging the Gap Training Days 2023-24 Foundation Year 2

What are Bridging the Gap (BtG) days?

They are training days that foundation year 2 (F2) doctors can tailor to meet their learning needs. The days are designed to give you the flexibility to select a course approved by HEE YH relevant to your desired career interest. The Bridging the gap days broadly fall into 2 categories; 'Skills Themed' days that help with practical skills such as central lines etc. and 'Speciality Themed' days that provide support, training and advice about developing a career in that speciality e.g. Psychiatry.

Are Bridging the Gap days compulsory and how many am I entitled to?

It is strongly recommended to attend one full Bridging the Gap day. This can be made up of either one full day course or two half day courses; these are clearly marked in the course booklet.

It is **optional** for you to take **ONE** additional Bridging the Gap day, which again can be one full day course or two half days. You must not do more than one full day equivalent of skills themed courses. You must not do more than one full day equivalent of specialty themed courses.

YOU MUST NOT BOOK MORE THAN TWO FULL BTG DAYS IN TOTAL.

The below combinations are acceptable:

1 FULL BTG DAY

1 x Specialty Full Day Course **OR**
1 x Skills Full Day Course **OR**
2 x Specialty Half Day Courses **OR**
2 x Skills Half Day Courses

2 FULL BTG DAYS

1 x Specialty **AND** 1 x Skills Full Day Course **OR**
2 x Specialty **AND** 2 x Skills Half Day Courses **OR**
1 x Specialty Full Day **AND** 2 x Skills Half Day Courses **OR**
1 x Skills Full Day **AND** 2 x Specialty Half Day Courses

What courses are on offer across the deanery?

The list of BtG courses will be available at the beginning of September 2023 in the 'Trainees' section of the Yorkshire and the Humber Foundation School website.

The Foundation Programme Support Team will send F2 Doctors regular email messages to advise when new courses are available. It is your responsibility to check your registered email account messages on a regular basis.

Can I attend HEE YH approved courses that are in a different part of Yorkshire?

Yes, the aim of these days is to give you the flexibility to attend relevant courses organised across the whole of Yorkshire and the Humber (NYEC, SYFS and WYFS).

I booked onto a BTG day but now wish to attend a different course.

F2 Doctors are required to notify the course provider in writing a minimum of 6 weeks' in advance of any cancellation. The Foundation School Director will be notified of all trainees who cancel their places at short notice. These trainees will incur the cost of the course and will not be permitted to attend another BTG day. Additionally this may affect your sign off for FPCC.

Can I attend a non-funded course instead?

No. There is enough capacity across HEE YH to provide all of our F2 Doctors with the opportunity to attend a BTG day. However, you should note that BTG days are popular therefore you should book a place in advance.

Can I use the bridging the gap days as study leave for exams?

No, study leave is not permitted for exams and BtG days must be used to complete one of our courses.

Will HEYH fund courses or conferences outside the list given?

No, you can only attend courses within the BtG programme.

Will I need to pay a deposit?

You may be asked to pay the course provider a small deposit which will be returned to you on attendance. If you fail to attend you will lose your deposit and may incur a fee for the remaining costs of the course and the Foundation School Director will be informed.

Do I need to record anything in my Horus e-portfolio?

In order to fulfil the requirements for ARCP, please upload certificates of attendance / completion to your Horus e-portfolio. You should also complete a reflective account of what you have learned from the event.

I've got a general query about Bridging the Gap days. Who should I speak to?

Please direct any queries to: foundation.yh@hee.nhs.uk

Are Bridging the gap days “study leave”?

Yes this professional leave away from clinical duties but is still work. You must have permission in advance for leave from your employer. FY2 doctors can take up to 30 days study leave. Please refer to the study leave guidance on the HEE Foundation web site for additional information.

Yorkshire and Humber’s strategy for Foundation teaching post Covid

We appreciate that in these exceptional times that we need to be more flexible with Foundation teaching requirements. Please visit the following link for further guidance:

<https://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/foundation/teaching-and-training/yhfs-strategy-foundation-teaching-post-covid>.

Process for arranging Bridging the Gap days

