

Dental Curriculum Oversight Group

DST curricula transition arrangements 2024 – v2

1 Purpose of this statement

1.1 - The Dental Curriculum Oversight Group is a working group with representation from the Dental Faculties of the four Royal Colleges, the General Dental Council and COPDEND.

1.2 - This statement sets out the requirements for dentists in training who are working towards a Certificate of Completion of Specialty Training (CCST) to move to the most recent GDC approved curriculum and programme of assessment.

1.3 - The newly revised Dental Specialty Training curricula will be introduced in September 2024. All trainees starting after this date will be on the revised curricula.

1.4 - Dentists currently in training in all specialties should move to the most recent GDC approved curriculum and its programme of assessment as soon as it is feasibly possible, taking account of patient and trainee safety whilst also balancing the needs of the service. As a guide we consider two years from the implementation date to be a reasonable transition period for all trainees to have moved to new curricula.

1.5 – All trainees should have at least one and ideally two opportunities to take the appropriate summative assessment before the end of training.

2 Transition Arrangements

2.1 – The stated length of training programmes is the current indicative time indicated in curricula.

2.2 - 3-year programmes

Endodontics
Oral Medicine (ARCP agreed reduced training time)
Oral Surgery
Orthodontics
Paediatric Dentistry
Periodontics
Prosthodontics
Special Care Dentistry

- Trainees who started in September 2023 would be at ST2 when the revised curricula are introduced in September 2024. They would stay on the old curriculum and would be in the proposed two-year window of transition for the whole of their training.
- If a trainee received a developmental outcome during training, they would need to transition to the new curriculum. They would need to be offered appropriate support to achieve the section C outcomes as these are different to requirements of the old curricula.

2.3 - 4-year programmes

Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology
Dental Public Health

- Trainees who started in September 2023 would transition to the new curriculum.

- Trainees who started in September 2022 would be at ST3 when the revised curricula are introduced in September 2024. They would stay on the old curriculum and would be in the proposed two-year window of transition for the whole of their training.
- If a trainee received a developmental outcome during training, they would need to transition to the new curriculum. They would need to be offered appropriate support to achieve the section C outcomes as these are different to requirements of the old curricula.

2.4 - 5-year programmes

Oral Medicine
Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
Restorative Dentistry
Oral Microbiology

- Trainees who started in September 2022 or later would transition to the new curriculum.
- Trainees who started in September 2021 would be at ST4 when the revised curricula are introduced in September 2024. They would stay on the old curriculum and would be in the proposed two-year window of transition for the whole of their training.

2.5 - Summary of which curriculum trainees will be on in September 2024

	Dental and Maxillofacial Pathology Oral Medicine Restorative Dentistry	Dental Public Health Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology	Endodontics Oral Medicine (ARCP reduced training time) Oral Surgery Orthodontics Paediatric Dentistry Periodontics Prosthodontics Special Care Dentistry
Stay on current curriculum	ST5 ST4	ST4 ST3	ST3 ST2
Transition to revised curriculum	ST3 ST2 ST1	ST2 ST1	ST1

2.6 – Trainees who have a proposed CCST date between September 2026 and December 2026 may not have an opportunity to have one attempt at the appropriate summative assessment as for obvious reasons the date of the diets of the exams have not been set. For these individuals, the decision on whether they should transition will be at the discretion of the Postgraduate Dean following discussion with the trainee.

3 Less Than Full Trainees or trainees who have received developmental outcomes

3.1 - If a trainee received a developmental outcome during training (Outcome 3, 10.3), they will need to transition to the new curriculum. As a result of this they will need to be offered appropriate support to achieve section C HLOs as these are additional requirements to previous curricula.

3.2 - The above principles should be used as a guide to management of transition for trainees, dependent on their stage of training (ST1, ST2 etc.) and not their start date. It should also be recognised that training times are indicative only (except oral surgery and orthodontics), and as it may be appropriate to adjust training time for individual trainees, this may affect any decision regarding transition arrangements.

4 Trainees on OOP/statutory leave

4.1 - Any trainee returning from OOP, or a period of statutory leave will be managed dependent on their stage of training on return to work.

5 Summative assessments

5.1 - Current summative assessments would need to still be provided until academic year 2026-27 to allow for those who are unsuccessful to have an opportunity to sit other diets during their 12-month extension.

5.2 – New summative assessments will be in place for academic year 2026-27.

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