

# Croydon

## Croydon GP Training Programme

Croydon University Hospital  
Thornton Heath  
Surrey  
CR7 7YEW

**Half Day Release:** Wednesday

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**GP Training Programme Website:** <https://www.cgpc.uk/programme>

### Description of scheme

Our VTS is in the vibrant and rapidly-expanding London Borough of Croydon. There is an eclectic demography with a multi-cultural and diverse population. Within Croydon, there is a vast choice of GP training practices in areas ranging from leafy suburbia to inner city settings. VTS trainees are therefore exposed to patients with a wide variety of backgrounds, diseases and health needs, ensuring a comprehensive preparation for their future careers.

ST1/2 posts, apart from Psychiatry, Oncology and Palliative Care, are based in our local district general hospital, Croydon University Hospital. Most general practice-relevant specialties are offered and there is further choice in our 4 Innovative Training Posts in Rheumatology, Dermatology (2 posts) and Paediatrics.

Croydon offers many opportunities for cultural, sporting and other leisure pursuits, which promote a healthy work-life balance. Being only 20mins' train-ride away from Victoria, it has excellent transport links to London and beyond. It is also the only place in South England with a tramlink network.

### Location

Postgraduate Medical Centre, Croydon University Hospital, 530 London Road, Croydon, CR7 7YE.

### Posts/Rotations

The Croydon GP Training Scheme offers a choice of 3-year programmes and shortened schemes constructed from the following posts, and placements in GP training practices:

- A&E
- Elderly Medicine
- GUM
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Paediatrics

- Psychiatry
- Trauma & Orthopaedics
- Dermatology (ITP)
- Paediatrics (ITP)
- Palliative Care
- Rheumatology (ITP)
- Urology
- MAU
- Oncology

## **Educational Activities**

With the new Specialty Training approach to general practice, we are committed to supporting our trainees throughout the 3 years of their VTS. We encourage development both at a personal and group level in order to equip individuals for a fulfilling career in general practice.

We are the only VTS scheme that offers a full educational day, which is held each Wednesday. Generally, there is a more clinically-based teaching session in the morning. We have long-established relationships with many Consultants, who provide excellent presentations on topics including, Ophthalmology, ENT, Gynaecology, Cardiology. These talks are general practice-based and intentionally interactive. Previous GP registrars have consistently rated these very highly. The afternoon sessions are more group-based and directly relevant to general practice. Topics covered include consultation skills, ethics and practice finance. We have worked hard, with the help of our Consultant colleagues, to maximise the access of ST1/ST2 trainees to the educational day, especially the afternoon sessions.

There are half-day protected afternoons held quarterly for all Croydon GPs and practice staff. These provided opportunities for inter professional learning as well as networking with colleagues. VTS trainees are invited to participate in these events.

## **Highlights**

As our scheme is the only one in London that includes a full educational day, it enables us to provide more flexible, interactive, learner-centred education with GP registrars being involved in helping to formulate the learning programme based on their learning needs.

It also allows us to organise educational days out in conjunction with other local VTS schemes. These have included a day at the local hospice learning about "needs of the dying", a finance day & sexual health day.

Our teaching approach is based on small groups. We foster group cohesion both directly and indirectly, both through ensuring the registrars have time to share experiences & learn from each other and by arranging days out where we can interact & discuss general practice in a relaxed environment.

## **Contacts**

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