The Enhanced Support Dentistry Programme is an opportunity for talented students from non-selective state schools in Greater London to pursue a career in dentistry. Students receive additional academic support whilst following the standard five-year Dentistry BDS course. This combines the very latest thinking in dental education with early clinical experience. You will be taught by internationally-renowned staff and exposed to a rich breadth of skills and knowledge in a diverse clinical environment.

Key benefits

- Evidence-based and research-led degree course with a high level of clinical experience in all areas.
- Ranked 1st in Europe and 4th in the world for Dentistry (QS World University Rankings, 2017).
- State-of-the-art clinical and technical facilities.
- Largest dental school in the UK graduating over 160 dentists a year.
- Partnership with the world-famous hospitals: Guy’s, King’s College and St Thomas’.
- Opportunity to intercalate a BSc degree.
- Access to a link-mentor who can help explain topics or arrange additional tutorials with appropriate teaching staff.

Course details

Our course has three main components. The first consists of subjects common to medicine and dentistry, progressing from biomedical sciences including behavioural sciences, epidemiology, pathology and microbiology to human disease. The second includes oral and dental aspects of the biological sciences leading to an understanding of the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of oral and dental diseases and disorders, and the effects of systemic disease on the oral and dental tissues. The third covers the clinical and technical aspects of dentistry with the provision of comprehensive oral and dental healthcare for patients of all ages. Throughout your degree, the balance of teaching will shift from theoretical and academic science to practical and clinical experience. Our curriculum enables students to assist in the dental care of patients from year one and assume an appropriate level of responsibility for patient care at an early stage.

The final two years of the course are designed to give students extensive clinical exposure with structured placements for practice in the community, as part of a dental team, providing care in diverse settings.
Teaching style

The integrated nature of our course means that basic science teaching will relate to clinical practice and clinical teaching will be underpinned by scientific understanding. Our course emphasises whole patient care, which requires consideration of the patients’ total dental and medical needs, rather than just the provision of individual items of treatment.

Our working environment is structured into cross-year undergraduate teams so that students benefit from working and studying with the same group of teachers and peers throughout their time at the Dental Institute.

Course structure

Courses are divided into modules, and you will normally take modules totalling 795 credits. Each year of the course is a module and you are required to take all modules for course completion.

Year 1

After a one-week introductory course, you will spend the remainder of year one studying biomedical sciences and topics relevant to the practice of dentistry. Throughout the year, you will be introduced to the clinical aspects of dentistry and dental technology and shown the relevance of basic science.

The following topics comprise the year one module (120 credits):

- BDS Communication in Dentistry
- BDS Management and Leadership
- BDS Professionalism in Health Care
- BDS Social and Behavioural Sciences
- BDS Dental Public Health
- BDS Radiology
- BDS Care of the Dental Patient
- BDS Conservative and Minimum Intervention Dentistry
- BDS Science - Biomedical Sciences
- BDS Science - Oral and Craniofacial Biology

Year 2

Year two concentrates on the introduction and development of basic dental clinical skills. You will treat patients with minor problems and progress to start the restorative care of your own patients. Linked to the practical clinical courses will be biomedical science subjects, such as anatomy of the head and neck, and oral biology. You will also develop an understanding of all aspects of the nervous system relevant to dentistry. During this year, you will begin to learn about human disease and this strand of learning will continue for the remainder of your time on our programme by studying topics such as pathology, microbiology and immunology.

The following topics comprise the year two module (150 credits):

- BDS Communication in Dentistry
- BDS Management and Leadership
- BDS Professionalism in Health Care
- BDS Social and Behavioural Sciences
- BDS Dental Public Health
- BDS Oral Surgery
- BDS Radiology
- BDS Dental Material Science
- BDS Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology
- BDS Care of the Dental Patient
- BDS Conservative and Minimum Intervention Dentistry
- BDS Science - Oral and Craniofacial Biology
- BDS Periodontology
- BDS Prosthodontics
- BDS Human Disease

Assessment

You will be assessed through written and practical examinations at the end of each year of the course.

You will be required to submit in-course assessments e.g. poster presentations, online tests, special projects and reports which must be successfully completed to progress through the course.

The study time and assessment methods detailed above are typical and give you a good indication of what to expect. However, they may change if the course modules change.

Course accreditation

The BDS course is regularly reviewed by the General Dental Council. It received a ‘sufficient for registration as a dentist’ rating at its last inspection in 2013.

Regulating body

King’s College London is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.
Year 3
In year three, you will continue to learn about all aspects of human disease and study the replacement of missing teeth. You will learn about fixed and removable prostheses, such as dental implants. There is also a technical component to these courses to ensure you understand how prostheses are constructed and how to deal with problems associated with their fit and function. You will devote significant time each week to the clinical care of patients including tuition in conservative dentistry and prosthodontics. You will also begin to learn about and perform the extraction of teeth and minor oral surgery. At the end of year three, you will have the opportunity to take an intercalated year for a BSc degree which allows you to pursue a subject of your choice in greater depth.

The following topics comprise the year three module (180 credits):

- BDS Communication in Dentistry
- BDS Management and Leadership
- BDS Professionalism in Health Care
- BDS Social and Behavioural Sciences
- BDS Dental Public Health
- BDS Oral Surgery
- BDS Radiology
- BDS Dental Material Science
- BDS Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology
- BDS Care of the Dental Patient
- BDS Conservative and Minimum Intervention Dentistry
- BDS Science - Oral and Craniofacial Biology
- BDS Periodontology
- BDS Prosthodontics
- BDS Human Disease

Year 4
In year four, you will spend most of the week providing dental care for patients. You will continue to learn about and perform more advanced procedures in restorative dentistry. During this year, you will gain a strong foundation in periodontology, child dental healthcare and orthodontics. As you become more proficient at dentistry, you will treat patients under conscious sedation. Learning continues in the human disease strand of the curriculum and you are introduced to an ongoing course in oral disease that will incorporate pathology and medicine relevant to disease in and around the mouth. Under the supervision of specialist teachers, you will be able to treat patients with more complex dental problems.

The following topics comprise the year four module (165 credits):

- BDS Communication in Dentistry
- BDS Professionalism in Health Care
- BDS Social and Behavioural Sciences
- BDS Dental Public Health
- BDS Oral Disease
- BDS Oral Surgery
- BDS Radiology
- BDS Conservative and Minimum Intervention Dentistry
- BDS Periodontology
- BDS Orthodontics
- BDS Paediatric Dentistry
- BDS Outreach (clinical placements)

Year 5
The final year consolidates all you have learned up to this point. You will continue to provide comprehensive dental care for adult and child patients. A specific feature of our course, our structured placements enable you to work on a regular basis at purpose-built clinics away from the main campus amongst diverse patient populations. There, you will gain valuable experience working in a dental team with dental nurses, hygienists and therapists to prepare yourself effectively for Dental Foundation Training and future practice.

The following topics comprise the year five module (180 credits):

- BDS Communication in Dentistry
- BDS Professionalism in Health Care
- BDS Social and Behavioural Sciences
- BDS Dental Public Health
- BDS Oral Disease
- BDS Oral Surgery
- BDS Radiology
- BDS Special Care Dentistry
- BDS Conservative and Minimum Intervention Dentistry
- BDS Periodontology
- BDS Orthodontics
- BDS Paediatric Dentistry
- BDS Outreach (clinical placements)

King’s College London reviews the modules offered on a regular basis to provide up-to-date, innovative and relevant programmes of study. Therefore, modules offered may change. We suggest you keep an eye on the course finder on our website for updates.
Location

Our course is taught at the following locations:

• Guy’s Campus
• Denmark Hill Campus
• St Thomas’ Campus

In addition, clinical placements are currently based at:

• University of Portsmouth Dental Academy OR
• West Norwood Health & Leisure Centre AND
King’s College Hospital, Denmark Hill

Career prospects

A variety of career pathways are open to new dental graduates. The career path for many graduates is general practice, with others aiming to be consultants in the hospital dental service, senior clinical academics in a teaching hospital, or specialist practitioners. In every case, newly-qualified graduates will enter practice by way of Dental Foundation Training. Foundation Dentists (FDs) work in a Training Practice under supervision and have a day release course of lectures and demonstrations building on the undergraduate degree and giving instruction in all aspects of practice management. After this year, successful FDs can begin work as an associate in a practice.

Fees and funding

Full time tuition fees UK

The UK tuition fees for the 2018-19 academic year are available on our course web page: kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/enhanced-support-dentistry-programme-bds.aspx

Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King’s terms and conditions.

For further information, please visit the fees and funding section of our website: kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/fees-and-funding/index.aspx

Additional costs

The following table gives you an indication of additional costs associated with your course. These costs are not included in your tuition fees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Approximate cost (over span of course)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DBS check- paid just prior to course entry</td>
<td>£50.00</td>
<td>£50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBS ongoing subscription</td>
<td>£13.00/year after first check</td>
<td>£52.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel between campuses (to Denmark Hill from Guy’s)</td>
<td>Up to £200.00 in each year: 3 and 4</td>
<td>£400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial funding of placement travel (can be claimed back)</td>
<td>£2,375.00 (Portsmouth) or £98.00 (West Norwood)</td>
<td>£2,375.00 or £98.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job hunting expenses</td>
<td>£200.00</td>
<td>£200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final year printing of poster for case presentation</td>
<td>£5.00</td>
<td>£5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation costs: tickets, gown hire etc.</td>
<td>£200.00</td>
<td>£200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDC registration (in year of graduation)</td>
<td>Refer to GDC website for prevailing rates. For example, registration fee paid in July 2016 is £445.02 to cover July – December 2016.</td>
<td>Variable – see example</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the costs above, you can also expect to pay for:

• books if you choose to buy your own copies
• clothing for optional course related events and competitions
• library fees and fines
• personal photocopies
• printing course handouts
• society membership fees
• stationery
• graduation costs
• travel costs for travel around London and between campuses.