

School of Optometry and Vision Sciences
Short-Placements Undergraduate Students Years 1 and 2

Year 1 (Mondays and Wednesdays)

Monday 20th January 2024 to Wednesday 19th March 2025

Year 2 (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

Tuesday 8th October 2024 to Thursday 27th March 2025

Students Recess/Absence (no placements): 16 December 2024 to 10th January 2025

Year 1 undergraduate students

Practice-based placements.

Placements will be scheduled for weeks 20th Jan 2025 – 19th Mar 2025 on Mondays and Wednesdays. It is expected that the Practice will take a minimum of one student per day. The Practice may wish to accommodate more than one student per day depending on capacity.

- Observations/shadowing in key areas of practice; Reception (e.g. meet and greet, phone calls, making appointments, taking payments), Pre-screening, Testing room, Dispensing, Contact lenses.
- Undertake, under supervision, pre-screening techniques and additional tests on a range of patients; NCT, visual fields and autorefractometry/OCT/photography (where available). Observe a range of preliminary techniques with real patients as part of a real eye examination. In suitable situations, a student should be able to attempt one of these tests on a patient during an examination under supervision (e.g. cover test on a patient with strabismus, viewing pathology that presents, etc.).
- Observe basic dispensing under supervision, e.g. PD, single vision dispense of simple Rx, support collections.
- Observe basic contact lens activities, e.g. CL teach.
- Students will be asked to reflect on various aspects of communication, teamworking, data protection, safety and hygiene, etc.
- Students will not require their own testing room.

Year 2 undergraduate students

Practice-based placements.

Placements will be scheduled for the weeks Oct 8th 2024 – Dec 10th 2024 and Jan 14th 2025 – Mar 20th 2025 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It is expected that the Practice will take a minimum of one student per day. The Practice may wish to accommodate more than one student per day, depending on capacity.

- Refresh of key areas in practice, see first year experience above.
- Undertake at least once each of the following pre-screening techniques and additional tests on a range of patients under appropriate supervision; NCT,

visual fields, focimetry, CL teach, single vision dispense, collection and OCT/ photography/ autorefraction (where available).

- Desirable to observe and participate where appropriate in a range of patient experiences, for example, patients with known pathology, children below 10 years of age, contact lens appointments, multifocal dispenses, etc.
- Desirable if offered by Practice, opportunity to observe specialist examinations, e.g. WGOS2, low vision, etc.
- Students will not require their own testing room.

Information relating to Clinical Placements: Period of Placement/s and Activities to be undertaken by Cardiff University Students. All placement activities must be appropriate to the role of a Student optometrist. Any activities to be undertaken by the Student not contained in the Placement Operational Agreement should be agreed in advance with the Placement Co-ordinator or nominee (email: optomplacements@cardiff.ac.uk)

The Placement Supervisor/s is the responsible person for the Student who must be appropriately qualified and registered by the GOC, such as an Optometrist, Dispensing Optician, Contact Lens Optician. Any Practice staff member may oversee individual tasks of the Student on a day-to-day basis but the Student's Portfolio/Record must be signed, dated by the Placement Supervisor/s with Student feedback required at the end of the placement year. However, the Supervisor must be on the premises and be in a position to oversee the work undertaken and ready to intervene if necessary.