

WORCESTER VTS – Autumn Term – 2007

What do you feel are the strengths of the VTS

A really nice and supportive group of people to work with. It is really useful that all teaching sessions are planned around our own learning needs. Having input from the centre organisers throughout.

Meeting up with and chatting to colleagues. Relevant and interesting presentations – very useful, usually. Good updates with exams etc.

Group presentations good, opportunity for team work and displaying strengths and weaknesses. Good contact with GP world, whilst in hospital specialities – helps to remind one of 'the goal'.

Team work. Mixing different levels. Teaching each other. Support network.

Informal atmosphere, supportive of group members. Broad variety of subject/topics covered in an interesting way. Flexible approach encouraging individual interests or problems. Encourages team work, with support of doctors at different stages of VTS.

Well organised. Cover topics well. Friendly. Residential was excellent.

Well organised. Dedicated trainers. Very friendly team members.

Meeting with fellow GP trainers. Discussion of relevant topics. Excellent organisation. Good presentations.

Great to meet people and friendly. New topics to be discussed. Good to reflect on week at work and friends.

Really enjoy and find interesting/useful the Thursday sessions. Very good variety of topics in the Thursday sessions.

Friendly and relaxed learning environment. Opportunity to learn from our peers.

Good group dynamics now. Good quality presentations. (Clearly time and effort spend by each group to further the education of their peers).

Excellent organization. Good team work. Camaraderie. Everyone makes big effort with presentations.

Organisation and planning before start of term. Small group sessions. Good group dynamics.

Good bunch of peers to meet with and discuss interesting cases and further plans, and focus hospital practitioners on goal of GP.

Good team building. Have found the presentations of a very high standard and useful.

Good group (socially and well motivated). People have made a good effort with presentations – useful topics.

Good camaraderie. Great atmosphere. Very informative.

Excellent group of people who work well together. Group presentations generally excellent.

Strong trainee involvement. Comprehensive curriculum overview.

Educational, supportive, useful to get together regularly to discuss common problems. Exams etc.

Good content and structure, good organised. Fun.

What do you feel are the weaknesses of the VTS

I think more focus on exams and the eportfolio would be helpful.

Introductory session for STI would have been helpful to discuss the general progression and plan for the 3 years. Sometimes feels a little divided in terms of GP v Hospital staff.

Could be more fact based teaching at times. No choice in job placement.

Areas such as Dermatology/Ophthalmology not covered in clinical placements. No choice of VTS job placements.

Occasionally try to pack too much into the afternoon sessions. If the jobs you do are problematic there isn't a clear pathway to report this to. Still don't know what ST2 jobs are. Jobs completely unrelated to previous experience.

None really. During this term there was more involvement of multi-disciplinary team, which was good.

Not often exam focused.

The idea of being in GP for 4/12 is good, but at times it is hard to gain experience/get supervised and develop, especially practical skills e.g. O and G. (If I don't do this in my rotations I would not feel confident).

Not much information so far on what to expect as a GP Registrar, which is something that I worry about.

Has not been very exam focused for the old registrars. (But I know this will and is already changing to meet new curriculum and new exam).

Could do with more exam focus.

Running over time.

This term understandably focused on exam and nMRCP (been essential), but unfortunate as not been on clinical aspect of medicine and EP.

Would be good to have a bit more GP registrar focused group time in terms of consultation discussions and preparation for the OSCE exams.

Perhaps more exam focus needed, but not really much in way of weakness.

Should be more sessions.

Not enough of it.

What opportunities do you feel there may be for VTS?

May be ongoing meeting after qualification, to maintain discussion on current 'hot topics' etc.

More topic based (factual teaching), then a more psycho-social session on health and disease.

Opportunities to sample different hospital specialities in afternoons. Mixing with other VTS

Exposure to community healthcare e.g. Gum clinics/community paediatrics/health visitors etc.

Would be good to cover stress in workplace and ways to deal with this.

More guidance on 'non-medical' topics, - eportfolio etc.

Social networking opportunities!

More outside speakers.

More expert/outside speakers. GP in alternative/special interest. GPs and how they manage their time and practice.

To make the second half a bit more structured.

Using knowledge and skills of trainees when they have specialised knowledge.

Continue to use outside specialists. Become more aware of outside agencies in the community – counselling, CAB etc.

Introduction to seeking work and what to look for in a practice.

More outside speakers e.g. consultants from hospital.

Team building,

How confident do you feel with regards to the new curriculum?

How confident do you feel with regard to nMRCGP and your ability to pass all the competences?

What are your main weaknesses in terms of preparation of being a GP?

How would you like the VTS to help you develop your skills to enable you to become a competent GP?

What themes / topics would you like the VTS to explore next term?