
Education and Training Panel – tier 1 paper approval route (January 2025)

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ETC makes all decisions on programme approval and on other operational education matters. Decisions are categorised into three ‘tiers’, which are categorised based on risk, whether recommended outcomes are challenged by providers, and/or whether there is a significant negative impact for the provider and / or learners. Meetings of the ETP are reserved for items which require a higher level of oversight or discussion before a decision can be made.

This agenda is for tier 1 papers-based decisions only. These decisions are by nature low risk. Decisions are made at this tier in a specific set of limited circumstances, most importantly when education providers have not provided any comments on the outcome through ‘observations’ and therefore this is no disagreement about the recommendation put forward by lead visitors or the executive.

Each section of the agenda has an explanation of the recommended process outcome, with information which enables the Panel to make a decision.

Agenda item

1. Approval

a. Programmes recommended for approval subject to meeting conditions

None.

b. Programmes recommended for approval

For each programme listed, partner visitors have judged that:

- the provision is of sufficient quality to meet relevant education standards
- the provider has demonstrated that facilities provided are adequate to deliver education and training as proposed

Therefore, they are recommending that the programmes are approved, subject to satisfactory monitoring. Education providers have not supplied observations for these recommendations, meaning they do not object to the recommendation made.

The Panel is asked to consider information in the table below, and decide whether each programme should be approved.

Education provider	Case reference	Lead visitors	Quality of provision	Facilities provided
The University of Northampton	CAS-01480-F7W7J0	Fleur Kitsell Jo Jackson	<p>Through this assessment, we have noted the following are areas of best practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The visitors noted how the programme team worked in partnership with the University's Learning Design team in designing the programmes to ensure constructive alignment. The visitors considered this good practice by the programme team and the institution as a whole. <p>The following areas should be referred to another HCPC process for assessment:</p>	<p>The education provider informed us they expected to have the following staff involved with delivery and management of the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Programme team – for example, programme lead for each programme;• Senior leadership team – for example, head of subject; and• Administrative support – for example, faculty managers.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The education provider noted they are developing a new learner-led physiotherapy clinic. We understood this involves a redesign of their existing podiatry learner-led clinic and is due to be completed in June/July 2025 and commence in the 2025/26 academic year. To understand how the clinic has impacted on the availability and capacity of practice-based learning, we will review this at the education provider's next performance review in 2028/29 academic year. <p>The programme(s) meet all the relevant HCPC education standards and therefore should be approved.</p>	<p>There will also be physical resources, including any specialist teaching space, for example, physiotherapy teaching rooms with plinths.</p> <p>The education provider will ensure resources to support the programme will be in place for the intended start date of the programme. They stated many resources are already in place, and a timeline is in place for building work to expand existing clinic and teaching space. This will be completed in summer 2025.</p>
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Programmes		
Programme name	Mode of study	Nature of provision
BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy	Full time	Taught (HEI)
BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy Integrated Apprenticeship Route	Full time	Apprenticeship

Education provider	Case reference	Lead visitors	Quality of provision	Facilities provided
University of East Anglia	CAS-01533-Q3B2J3	Luke Ewart & Julie Weir	Through this assessment, we have noted that the programme meets all the relevant HCPC education standards and therefore should be approved.	<p>Education and training delivered by this institution is underpinned by the provision of the following key facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existing resources the education provider offers learners will be sufficient to support the delivery of the proposed programme. In addition to this, the education provider have invested in online resources and training for staff and are continuing to develop these resources.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed programme will be supported by the existing undergraduate programme staff the education provider has. Associate tutors will also be involved with the delivery.
Programmes				
Programme name			Mode of study	Nature of provision
BSc (Hons) Operating Department Practice Degree Apprenticeship			Part time	Apprenticeship

Education provider	Case reference	Lead visitors	Quality of provision	Facilities provided
University of Exeter	CAS-01538-W3C7C9	Garrett Kennedy & Nicola Bowes	<p>Through this assessment, we have noted:</p> <p>The following areas should be referred to another HCPC process for assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring there are an adequate number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff to deliver the programme - Visitors have suggested the education providers progress on recruiting staff prior to the commencement of the proposed programme is reviewed. This would be to ensure there was an adequate number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff to deliver the proposed programme. Therefore, the visitors recommend that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> prior to the commencement of the programme, we keep in regular contact with the education provider and obtain updates. We will virtually meet with them over Spring 2025 to discuss the progress made in this area. If the recruitment is not progressing as planned, we will set up a focused review case to consider this prior to the commencement of the programme. 	<p>Education and training delivered by this institution is underpinned by the provision of the following key facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently the staff team consists of a Portfolio director 0.5 FTE, Project coordinator 0.4 FTE and two Programme directors who are also forensic psychologists 0.2 FTE. There are plans to recruit further staff for which they have received approval from the Finance department. This will include an academic director 0.2 FTE, research director 0.2 FTE and tutors 0.4 FTE. The education provider offers a range of facilities to support the programme. These include library and wellbeing support services and access to specialist areas for

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ if recruitment progresses as planned, we will ask the education provider to reflect on their staffing levels in Spring 2026 through the focused review process. <p>The purpose of this monitoring will be to ensure appropriately qualified and experienced staff are in place for the commencement of the programme.</p>	Psychology learners such as Washington Singer and the Mood Disorders Centre where there are specialist learning spaces.
Programmes			
Programme name		Mode of study	Nature of provision
Doctor of Forensic Psychology		Full time	• Taught (HEI)

2. Performance review

a. Review period for institutions which have been subject to the performance review process

None.

3. Focused review

a. Institutions / programmes subjected to the focused review process, where no further action is recommended

For each provider listed, the executive has judged that the trigger investigated does not impact on our education standards being met. Education providers and any case contact have not supplied observations for these recommendations, meaning they do not object to the recommendation made.

The Panel is asked to consider information in the enclosure, decide whether any action is required, and if so what that action should be.

Education provider	Review level	Review recommendation
London Metropolitan University	Programme(s)	No further action
University of Derby	Programme(s)	No further action
University of Westminster	Both	No further action

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b. Institutions / programmes subjected to the focused review process, where referral to another process is recommended

None.

4. Records change – provider consent

For each programme listed, the education provider has provided consent to close the programme / amend programme records.

Programmes are either:

- Closing / have closed to new cohorts (where the last intake date is complete)
- Opening to replace an existing programme record (where the last intake date is not complete)

The Panel is asked to confirm these administrative changes to the list of approved programmes.

Education provider	Programme name	Mode of study	First intake	Last intake
AECC University College	BSc (Hons) Radiography (Diagnostic Imaging)	FT (Full time)	01/09/2020	01/09/2021
AECC University College	BSc (Hons) Radiography (Radiotherapy and Oncology)	FT (Full time)	01/09/2020	01/09/2021
AECC University College	Independent and Supplementary Prescribing	PT (Part time)	13/01/2025	
AECC University College	MSc Dietetics (Integrated Degree apprenticeship)	FT (Full time)	23/09/2024	23/09/2024
AECC University College	MSc Dietetics (Pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	16/01/2023	16/01/2023
AECC University College	MSc Occupational Therapy (pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	09/01/2023	09/01/2023
AECC University College	MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	01/01/2021	16/09/2022
AECC University College	MSc Physiotherapy (pre-registration) (Dublin)	FT (Full time)	16/09/2024	16/09/2024

AECC University College	MSc Podiatry (Pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	16/01/2023	16/01/2023
AECC University College	MSc Speech and Language Therapy (pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	09/01/2023	09/01/2023
Coventry University	Diploma of Higher Education Operating Department Practice	FT (Full time)	01/09/2003	01/09/2022
Health Sciences University	BSc (Hons) Radiography (Diagnostic Imaging)	FT (Full time)	16/09/2024	
Health Sciences University	BSc (Hons) Radiography (Radiotherapy and Oncology)	FT (Full time)	16/09/2024	
Health Sciences University	Independent and Supplementary Prescribing	PT (Part time)	13/01/2025	
Health Sciences University	MSc Dietetics (Integrated Degree apprenticeship)	FT (Full time)	23/09/2024	
Health Sciences University	MSc Dietetics (Pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	16/01/2023	
Health Sciences University	MSc Occupational Therapy (pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	09/01/2023	
Health Sciences University	MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	09/01/2023	
Health Sciences University	MSc Physiotherapy (pre-registration) (Dublin)	FT (Full time)	16/09/2024	
Health Sciences University	MSc Podiatry (Pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	16/01/2023	
Health Sciences University	MSc Speech and Language Therapy (pre-registration)	FT (Full time)	09/01/2023	
University of Suffolk	BSc (Hons) Operating Department Practice	FT (Full time)	01/09/2017	31/08/2020