

Professor Sheona MacLeod  
Acting Director of Education and Quality and Executive Medical Director  
Health Education England

(Sent via email)

21 September 2020

Dear Sheona

**Re: SAS grade doctors' access to organised teaching events**

As you know, JCST has no remit for non-trainees, other than the CESR evaluations we undertake on behalf of the GMC. Nevertheless, we do engage with SAS grades should they have questions about their CESR applications and through their Royal College representatives in our curriculum development work.

As part of these ongoing discussions, it recently came to light that SAS doctors face difficulties or are actively prevented from gaining access to School / Deanery organised teaching events held for trainees. These difficulties arise from the understanding that these events are being held for trainees only and that SAS doctors are not permitted to attend.

Clearly, when these events are held face to face in rooms with limited capacity, trainees must have priority access. However, with more, or all, of these events now taking place virtually, the numbers attending are no longer an issue.

We undertook, on behalf of our SAS colleagues to ask whether it might be possible for Schools / Deaneries to open teaching events to their local SAS doctors in addition to their trainees, and we would be grateful if COPMeD could consider this request.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Griffiths  
Chair, JCST



Jon Lund  
Chair-designate, JCST

Cc: Victoria Dobie, SAS representative on RCS Edinburgh Council  
Ananda Nanu, SAS representative on RCS England Council  
Yuri Kulikov, SAS representative on RCS Edinburgh Council  
Vinita Shekar, invited SAS representative on RCS England Council