Student Placement Localities
Paramedic Practice
Introduction

The Paramedic Practice programme consists of 50 per cent theory and 50 per cent practice. The practice component is gained within ‘placements’. The University of Surrey is very fortunate to have a broad range of excellent placements within Surrey. This geographical area is divided up to enable students to be allocated to one distinct area, enabling the student to become a member of that community of healthcare practitioners. These geographical divisions are called ‘Localities’.

There are four geographical localities serving paramedic practice programmes at the University of Surrey. Each locality has ambulance station placements (provided by South East Coast Ambulance Service), and district general hospital placements. It is in these placements that paramedic students gain their practical experiences.

South East Coast Ambulance Service

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust is part of the National Health Service (NHS) responding to 999 calls from the public and urgent calls from healthcare professionals. In Kent and Sussex they provide non-emergency patient transport services (pre-booked patient journeys to and from healthcare facilities).

SECAmb deals with a geographical area of 3,600 square miles (Brighton & Hove, East Sussex, West Sussex, Kent, Surrey, and North East Hampshire) includes densely populated urban areas, sparsely populated rural areas and some of the busiest stretches of motorway in the country. These range from ambulance stations and ambulance community response posts to the emergency dispatch centres where they receive 999 calls and dispatch emergency vehicles. However, University of Surrey placements are restricted to the Surrey localities listed in this brochure.

SECAmb staff care for patients either face to face, or over the phone at one of our three emergency dispatch centres where they receive 999 calls. The patients range from the critically ill and injured who need specialist treatment, to those with minor healthcare needs who can be treated at home or in the community.
Locality One

Locality one is in the eastern areas of Surrey and serves the surrounding, towns and villages. It consists of a strong community of healthcare practitioners, working together to provide a high standard of care to the people it serves and students soon become ‘one of the team’ with most deciding to stay and work there upon qualification.

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SECAmb) includes Redhill Ambulance Station, Godstone Ambulance Station, Caterham Ambulance Station (based in Townhill Medical Centre), Gatwick Community Response Post, Horley Ambulance Station (based in Horley Health Centre), Leatherhead Ambulance Station and Epsom Ambulance Station. These Ambulance Stations provide 24 hours a day, 7 days a week emergency cover.

For more information, please see: www.secamb.nhs.uk

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (SASH) includes the East Surrey Hospital, which is around 28 miles from Guildford and located near Redhill and is the major acute hospital for East Surrey and North West Sussex. It provides 24 hours a day, 7 days a week emergency services.

For further information, please see: www.surreyandsussex.nhs.uk
Locality Two

Locality two is located in the northern area of Surrey and serves Ashford and Chertsey and other towns and villages around that area. It provides a warm welcome to its students and they soon become one of the community and feel well supported.

**South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SECAmb)** including Chertsey Ambulance Station, Staines Ambulance Station (based in Staines Fire Station), Walton Ambulance Station, Esher Ambulance Station (based in Esher Fire Station), Knaphill Ambulance Station and Woking Ambulance Station (based in Woking Community Hospital). These Ambulance Stations provide 24 hours a day, 7 days a week emergency cover.

For further information, please see: [www.secamb.nhs.uk](http://www.secamb.nhs.uk)

**Ashford and St.Peter’s NHS Trust**, with Ashford Hospital located near Heathrow Airport and St.Peter’s Hospital in Chertsey, around 12 miles from Guildford. Both these hospitals provide a wide range of services for their local populations, including a new dedicated Diabetes Resource Centre at St.Peters.

For further information, please see: [www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk](http://www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk)

**Surrey Community Health (Surrey Primary Care Trust)** provides community based nursing for the local population, including GP surgeries, community nursing teams, Health Visitors, and inpatient services within small community hospitals.

For further information please see: [www.transition.surreypct.nhs.uk](http://www.transition.surreypct.nhs.uk)
Locality Three

Locality three is located in the north-western area of Surrey and Hampshire and serves the Frimley area as well as surrounding towns and villages. It prides itself in having a friendly atmosphere and welcoming staff who have a positive ‘can do’ attitude.

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SECAmb) providing emergency cover to North East Hampshire and Surrey. The Ambulance stations covering this area include Farnborough Ambulance Station and Tongham Ambulance Station providing emergency cover points in Aldershot (Aldershot Centre for Health) and Fleet (Fleet Fire station).

For further information, please see: www.secamb.nhs.uk

Frimley Park NHS Foundation Trust Hospital is a fully integrated Ministry of Defence Hospital Unit (MDHU), 16 miles from Guildford, with 724 beds specialising in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, General Surgery, General Medicine including Cystic Fibrosis, Trauma and Orthopaedics, Ear Nose and Throat, Urology, Accident and Emergency, Cardiology including cardiac catheterisation, Ophthalmology and Anaesthetics.

For further information, please see: www.frimleypark.nhs.uk
Surrey Community Health (Surrey Primary Care Trust) provides community based nursing for the local population, including GP surgeries, community nursing teams, Health Visitors, and inpatient services within small community hospitals.

For further information, please see: www.transition.surreypct.nhs.uk

Hampshire Community Health Care NHS Trust provides many primary care services through hard-working teams in the community throughout Hampshire. Students gain a range of experiences and are well supported by mentors in practice.

For further information, please see: www.hchc.nhs.uk
Locality Four

Locality four is located in central and southern Surrey and serves Guildford and the towns and villages surrounding the University.

**South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SECAmb)** including Guildford Ambulance Station, Godalming Ambulance Station, Cranleigh Ambulance Station and Haslemere Ambulance Station (based in Haslemere Community Hospital).

For further information, please see: [www.secamb.nhs.uk](http://www.secamb.nhs.uk)

**The Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust** has 527 beds and provides the local population with both elective and emergency surgery, and services for those with urgent, acute and long term medical conditions. It has 14 operating theatres, has specialist maxillo-facial services, as well as providing a tertiary centre for cancer services.

For further information, please see: [www.royalsurrey.nhs.uk](http://www.royalsurrey.nhs.uk)

**Surrey Community Health (Surrey Primary Care Trust)** provides community based nursing for the local population, including GP surgeries, community nursing teams, Health Visitors, and inpatient services within local hospitals.

For further information, please see: [www.transition.surreypct.nhs.uk](http://www.transition.surreypct.nhs.uk)
Further Information

Further information about localities and accommodation opportunities within each of the localities is provided to the students’ at the start of the programme and within local induction to the practice environments. The accommodation provision varies between the localities and usually comprises students organising privately rented flat-sharing or house-sharing via local agents.

All students can be accommodated within University campus accommodation for the commencement of their programme but it is expected that students will move into their geographical locality when their placements start, approximately five months after the start of the programme. This enables the student to travel to and from placements with ease and minimum cost, and better enables students to get to placements for the start times of shifts (can be as early as 7am) and back home when they finish (can be after 9pm), and attend for night duty which is a requirement of the programme.

The theory component of the programme is taught within the University campus in Guildford for all students, irrespective of locality, for the duration of the programme.
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Process for Student Allocation to Locality

There are limited placements within each locality and so each new cohort of students must be divided up between localities to ensure a high quality practice experience for all.

A priority system exists when allocating students to Localities, to ensure the needs of those students with specific geographical requirements are met, as much as is possible within the limited capacity in each location.

The priority system identifies the following:

- Sponsored students are placed within the locality where the sponsoring Trust has placements
- Students with dependents are placed in the locality nearest to their home address, as far as capacity allows
- Students living in their own homes (or the parental home) at the start of the programme are placed in a locality as near to their home address as possible, as far as capacity allows
- Students who opt to live in University accommodation for the start of the programme are allocated according to home address to the nearest possible locality, as far as capacity allows

It must be noted that placements within the locality may still be some distance from the student's home address and travelling to placements within the full geographical area of the allocated locality will be required in order to meet the practice component of the paramedic practice programme.

There are sometimes opportunities to change a student’s allocated locality but this depends upon capacity at the preferred locality. The first year leader will explain the process for this at the start of the programme.
Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this brochure at the time of going to press. The University reserves the right, however, to introduce changes to the information given including the addition, withdrawal or restructuring of degree programmes.

Many thanks to the following organisations for providing many of the images used within this brochure:

Ashford and St. Peter's NHS Foundation Trust
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