

Course Information Document: Undergraduate

For students starting in Academic Year 2019/2020

1. Course Summary

Names of programme(s) and award title(s)	Master of Pharmacy (with Integrated Training Year) (MPharm)
Award type	Integrated Masters
Mode of study	Full time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 7
Duration	5 years
Location of study	Keele University – main campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	Provisional accreditation has been achieved from the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC). For further details see the section on Accreditation
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	<p>UK/EU students: Fee for 2019/20 is £9,250*</p> <p>International students: Fee for 2019/20 is £24,000**</p>
Additional Costs	Please refer to the Additional costs section

How this information might change: Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

2. What is an Integrated Masters programme?

Integrated master's awards are delivered through a programme that combines study at the level of a bachelor's degree with honours with study at master's level. As such, a student graduates with a master's degree completing the programme of study. The Integrated Masters programme described in this document builds upon undergraduate-level study by adding a fourth year in which students study modules in Pharmacy at an

* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

** We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

advanced level. The fourth year of the Integrated Masters course has been split into two to accommodate the integrated training year.

3. Overview of the Programme

The aim of the MPharm (with Integrated Training Year) programme is to produce graduates qualified to enter the General Pharmaceutical Council's Register as a pharmacist with the values and attitudes that will enable them to undertake the roles and duties of a pharmacist in a highly professional manner.

4. Aims of the Programme

The broad aims of the programme are to:

- enable you to apply an evidence-based and patient-centred approach to practice;
- provide you with the breadth and depth of appropriate subject knowledge in keeping with an MPharm programme;
- provide high quality teaching in Pharmacy in a dynamic environment that reflects external developments in employers' needs;
- enable you to become a reflective learner, and to encourage and develop self-discipline and enthusiasm for continual professional development that continues throughout your career;
- provide you with the opportunity to gain direct and indirect experience of the work of a pharmacist, enabling an understanding of the profession of Pharmacy as a patient-centred discipline, and the role of the pharmacist in primary and secondary care settings and in the pharmaceutical industry;
- allow you to deepen both your Pharmacy-specific knowledge but also your skills base, by maintaining both a programme of appropriate skills training throughout the course but also by introducing increasing challenges as the programme progresses.

Following the government White Paper, *Pharmacy in England: Building on Strengths—Delivering the Future* (Department of Health, 2008), and the formation of the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) in 2010, the structure of MPharm programmes nationally is under review. Foremost amongst potential developments is the introduction of greater clinical content and experience into MPharm curricula, and this may encompass the inclusion of the pre-registration year in a five-year integrated programme leading directly to registration.

Anticipating these changes, the Keele MPharm programme has been designed to provide:

- a fully integrated and contextualised course that better prepares students for the future roles of the pharmacist; and
- increased opportunities for students to have contact with patients and to practise their clinical skills.

While designing the course, care has been taken to build in flexibility whatever model of placements is decided upon by the profession. A programme structure comprising four 120-credit integrated modules will allow for the smooth inclusion of enhanced placement opportunities.

5. What you will learn

See Section 8 for information about the intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), by level/year. These intended learning outcomes are based on the outcomes in the General Pharmaceutical Council's (GPhC) document '*Future pharmacists: Standards for the initial education and training of pharmacists*'.

Link: https://www.pharmacyregulation.org/sites/default/files/GPhC_Future_Pharmacists.pdf

6. How is the Programme taught?

A wide variety of teaching methods are used within the MPharm programme. These include traditional large group teaching sessions, workshops, seminars and tutorials (both face-to-face and on-line) and a variety of practical classes that support the development of scientific and professional skills. However, a feature of the Keele MPharm programme is the use of innovative teaching methods; these include: computer-generated virtual

environments where the student can “float” complex molecules to view receptor sites, and a virtual body which can show anatomy and physiology in detail in three-dimensions.

The above scheduled teaching sessions are supported by an extensive programme of one-to-one mentoring by healthcare professionals, a series of clinical placements and regular opportunities to interact with both simulated (actor) and real patients.

All of the teaching and learning experiences are structured to achieve two key aims: contextualisation of material and integration of themes. In this way, students are prepared for the range of assessments that are used in the programme.

7. Teaching Staff

The staffing within the School of Pharmacy includes professors and a complement of readers, senior lecturers, lecturers and academic-related and technical support staff, all of which contribute to a supportive environment for study. A number of staff have dual roles, in that they have contracts with the University but also hold contracts with other relevant stakeholders, including the NHS. Several of the current staff also have extensive experience of working within the pharmaceutical industry and are able to provide context and perspective to all aspects of the programme.

All current permanent academic staff are members of, or are working towards, membership of the Higher Education Academy. All current permanent academic staff hold academic qualifications up to at least Post-graduate diploma level or significant equivalent experience within practice and the majority hold a PhD qualification in a discipline firmly rooted in pharmacy. The staff group has extensive experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level and includes individuals with expertise in learning and teaching, and research. The work of all research-active staff has been published widely and shared via conference presentations, for example.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme’s content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

8. What is the Structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from course to course, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. The fourth and fifth years of the course will involve scheduled teaching and training from September to August, with provision for annual leave to be taken.

Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

The programme is planned as five 120-credit modules – one for each year of study. During each year teaching material is delivered within themes that are designed to integrate the physical and social sciences within the context of patient care and public health.

During Level 7 students have the opportunity to choose topics to study within an electives strand that is designed to complement their chosen career path within Pharmacy. Students will choose from a range of specialist topics taught in small seminar groups and an extended project. The number of specialist options chosen and the length / nature of the project may be varied to suit each student’s interests and aspirations.

Shown on the following pages are the learning outcomes for each level of study. Further details of the mapping of learning outcomes to themes are provided in the module guides for each level of study.

For further information on the content of modules currently offered please visit:

www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/az

9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

MPharm (with Integrated Training Year) Pharmacy	600 credits	<p>You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6 and 240 credits at level 7</p> <p>Students who have attained the required standard shall be awarded the Integrated Master's degree with honours classification as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First class: a mean average of at least 70% determined in accordance with the weightings specified below; • Second Class, Division I: a mean average between 60% and 69% determined in accordance with the weightings specified below; • Second Class, Division II: a mean average between 50% and 59% determined in accordance with the weightings specified below. <p>For the purpose of the Integrated Master's degree with honours classification modules shall contribute to the mean average calculation as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 5 module: 20% • Level 6 module: 30% • Level 7 module: 50%
MSc in Pharmaceutical Studies	480 credits	<p>You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5, 6 and 7</p> <p>Students who successfully complete the theoretical components of Stages 4 and 5 but are not successful in the Professional Placement competencies may be awarded an MSc in Pharmaceutical Studies.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete the theoretical and professional placement components of Stage 5 but are not successful in the General Pharmaceutical Council's Registration Assessment may be awarded an MSc in Pharmaceutical Studies.</p>
BSc Honours Degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences	360 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6
Diploma in Higher Education	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
Certificate in Higher Education	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

NB: Students are only eligible for entry to the pre-registration training year (and hence to the Register of Pharmacists) when they graduate with the full MPharm degree

10. How is the Programme assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used within Pharmacy at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff take care to apply the principles of assessment laid out in the University's assessment strategy and pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. In each Level of the programme a combination of examination (in various formats) and coursework is employed. An outline of the assessment types is provided below.

At all levels, reassessment opportunities for individual components of coursework will be provided during the academic year. Students who have failed to complete any of the assessments above will be given the opportunity to redeem the failure during the August reassessment period, where possible.

Level 4 (Stage 1)

Each eight-week cycle of learning is assessed using a balanced mix of unseen multiple-choice examinations and laboratory, coursework and skills-based assignments. Students also complete a professional development portfolio, given the title of Professional Skills Element, throughout the year.

After completing the three cycles of learning and assessment students undertake a problem-based learning strand culminating in a group-based competency assessment. The aim of this synoptic assessment is to ensure that students demonstrate understanding of the links and interdependencies between the topics that they have covered during the year.

In order to be awarded credits at Level 4, students are required to pass:

- the end-of-cycle examinations;
- the laboratory skills assessments;
- the practical skills assessments

Students must also achieve a satisfactory standard in the Professional Skills Element (which includes competency based assessments) and the final synoptic assessment.

Progression to Level 5 is not permitted until all units of assessment are completed satisfactorily.

Level 5 (Stage 2)

There are two cycles of learning and assessment in Level 5. Each cycle is assessed using a balanced mix of unseen examinations, and laboratory, coursework and skills-based assignments, alongside the Professional Skills Element that runs throughout the year. As in Level 4, a synoptic assessment allows students to demonstrate understanding of the links and interdependencies between the topics that they have covered; this assessment takes the form of a group-based assignment as at Level 4.

In order to be awarded credits at Level 5, students are required to pass:

- the end-of-cycle examinations;
- the laboratory skills assessments;
- the practical skills assessments

Students must also achieve a satisfactory standard in the Professional Skills Element (which includes competency based assessments such as that for dispensing practice) and the final synoptic assessment.

Progression to Level 6 is not permitted until all units of assessment are completed satisfactorily.

Level 6 (Stage 3)

Level 6 is assessed by a balanced mix of seen and unseen examinations, coursework and skills-based assignments alongside the Professional Skills Element and synoptic assessment throughout the year.

In addition, at Level 6, and continuing in Level 7, TRIPSE assessments are introduced. TRIPSEs are designed to mirror closely the clinical challenges that pharmacists face in day-to-day practice. Peer and self-assessment are also introduced at this level.

Progression to Level 7 is not permitted until all units of assessment are completed satisfactorily; it should be noted that students must achieve a threshold mark of 50% averaged across all Level 6 assessments in order to progress.

Level 7 (Stages 4 and 5)

New coursework assessments introduced at Level 7 include the project report and presentation, and a public health campaign along with a variety of assessments associated with the option topics.

As in previous years, students must also achieve a satisfactory standard in the Professional Skills Element (including competency based assessments) and the final synoptic assessment.

Formative assessments and feedback

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess students' achievement of learning outcomes. Students are also assessed formatively to enable them to monitor their own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how students can improve the quality of their work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

Interprofessional Education (IPE)

At all levels of the programme there will be opportunities to participate in IPE sessions within the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.

11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year/stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

Activity	Year 1 (Level 4)	Year 2 (Level 5)	Year 3 (Level 6)	Year 4 (Level 7)	Year 5 (Level 7)
Scheduled learning and teaching activities	37%	32%	27%	22%	22%
Guided independent Study	62%	67%	71%	22%	22%
Placements	1%	1%	2%	56%	56%

12. Accreditation

The MPharm course is subject to accreditation by the GPhC. This is a step-wise process and the first Step took place in June 2017. The School was successful at Step 1 meaning that we have provisional accreditation and can allow students to enter the course. Following this, there will be at least four further Step visits by the GPhC before the final visit at the end of the first iteration of the fifth year of the course (full accreditation).

13. Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

Course Regulations

There are specific course regulations, which you have to abide by, as follows:

All five 120-credit modules in the Keele MPharm programme are core and must be passed in their entirety before progression to the next stage of study.

The award of MPharm (with Integrated Training Year) will require the successful completion of 120 credits at Stage 5.

In addition, please note:

- there are requirements for occupational health and fitness to practise checks that apply before students can undertake placements in healthcare settings.
- the MPharm Programme does not allow Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL).
- Study abroad is not currently permitted on the MPharm programme.

14. Other learning opportunities

External learning opportunities on the Keele MPharm take two forms: observational visits and participatory placements.

In the first year of the course, students are given the opportunity to observe practice in primary care (community pharmacy) and secondary care (hospital pharmacy) environments. Students have 12 hours placement in community pharmacy (undertaken as 4 x 3 hour visits) with the opportunity to undertake a three hour placement in hospital pharmacy. These visits are designed to allow the student to contextualise the theoretical learning they have undertaken within the University. In the second year students are provided with support and information to organise 18 hours of placement activity within community pharmacy and are actively encouraged to seek further, voluntary, work experience. All MPharm students are indemnified by the university to undertake activities within pharmacy working environments meaning that these placements are participatory rather than observational. Also included in the Level 5 programme is a visit to a pharmaceutical company that specialises in the manufacture of liquid formulations so students will be able to experience the manufacture of pharmaceuticals on an industrial scale. These visits allow the students to further build upon and contextualise the material taught within the second year of the MPharm course, including that in pharmaceuticals and relating to pharmaceutical manufacturing.

In Stages 3, 4 and 5 of the MPharm course the emphasis of the placement activity is very much of participation. Placements within the secondary care setting start in the first semester of the third year as tutor-led teaching visits. By the end of the final year students are taken to a ward and encouraged, under supervision, to perform the functions of a hospital pharmacist by exploring and verifying the drug history of a small number of patients. Students are also encouraged, where it is possible, to talk to and ask questions of patients they encounter.

During the third year, secondary care placements are designed to reinforce the therapeutic areas being taught within the MPharm course. During the final year such specialisation is not deemed necessary as co-morbidities are being addressed within the therapeutic teaching sessions and so the students experience the variety and unpredictability of the real clinical environment.

Level 6 placements in community practice are organised in the same fashion as in Level 5 and the students are encouraged to explore non-prescription medicine supply. Within the first semester of Level 6, the students are responsible for the production of their own set of non-prescription medicine and advice guidelines. The community placements are expected to reinforce this material.

Students are responsible for reasonable costs incurred in travelling to local placements and making travel arrangements – in the same way as for travel to and from the University generally. As with all healthcare programmes, there are requirements for occupational health and fitness to practise checks that apply before students can undertake placements in healthcare settings.

In Level 7 (Stages 4 and 5) students will undertake three Professional Placements. Placements 1 and 2 will each be of three months' duration and will take place in Stage 4. Placement 3 will be of six months' duration and will take place in Stage 5. Students will be allocated to placements following a selection process in Stage 3. This selection process will involve both the School of Pharmacy and placement providers. **The School of Pharmacy does not guarantee that a student who begins their studies on the 5-year MPharm (with Integrated Training Year) will be selected for the Professional Placements, however there is an expectation that students who are at the required academic standing and meet the appropriate profile will go on to the placement.**

Any student who fails this selection process will automatically enter the 4-year MPharm programme to complete their studies. Students on a Visa to study in the UK will need to apply for a new Visa from outside of the UK if they change from the 5-year MPharm (with Integrated Training Year) to the 4-year MPharm at their own cost.

Study abroad is not currently permitted on the MPharm programme.

15. Additional costs

MPharm Programme Costs

Occupational Health and Vaccinations

All students registering on the MPharm programme will need to have a health fitness report prepared by the University's Occupational Health Service (OHS). As part of this report your GP will need to complete the appropriate section of the questionnaire and provide a vaccination record that has your name, d.o.b. and a practice stamp on it. It is likely that your GP will make a charge for this service which could be in the region of £25 – but this charge can vary. You will receive all of the required information about this process in your offer letter from the University.

You will be required to have the following immunisations/immunity checks if you have not already had them.

- A course of hepatitis B plus a blood test to confirm immunity (a course is 3 or 4 vaccinations)
- MMR Vaccinations – proof of 2 vaccines or blood test confirming immunity (Your GP should be able to offer MMR vaccination free of charge if you have not previously had them)
- BCG – proof of vaccination or BCG Scar
- Additional TB screening – if you were born or lived in a TB endemic country for 3 months or more you will require a Quantum Interferon test for TB (IGRA)
- Chicken pox / varicella – you must have a definite history of illness or blood test to confirm immunity, if you are non-immune on blood testing you will require evidence of receiving two varicella vaccinations. Your vaccination requirements should be discussed with your GP; you are likely to incur a charge for these.

Appointments can be arranged for you once you have commenced your course however there will be a charge for these, currently between £40 - £80 per blood test.

Cost for vaccines - current costs vary between £45 and £90 per vaccine and up to £180 for a Hepatitis B vaccination course.

Please note the above costs are indicative and you would need to contact your GP or Keele's Occupational Health team for the latest charges.

You will be unable to attend experiential learning visits without a completed University Occupational Health Service health fitness report.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check

As parts of your course will involve contact with patients who may be children or vulnerable adults, you are required to undergo an appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service check when you enrol on the MPharm course. The cost for the online check is currently £55.89.

Travel for placements

You will be required to attend local hospitals and community pharmacies for half-day teaching / training sessions. Travel costs to attend your placement can cost up to a maximum of £280 per year, but the proximity of your own accommodation to your placement location and any personal travel arrangements you may wish to organise (e.g. a student bus pass) may reduce this cost significantly.

All placements are allocated at random. Where possible, the School will be mindful of previous allocations re: distance.

Protective clothing

Protective clothing such as laboratory coats and safety goggles will be provided to you by the School of Pharmacy free of charge in the first instance.

Item	Estimated cost
Travel (as above)	£280
Other additional costs – Occupational health clearance (first year only)	Up to £300
Other additional costs – DBS check (first year only)	£55.89
Total estimated additional costs	£635.89

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation.

We do not anticipate any further costs for this undergraduate programme.

16. Document Version History

Date of first approved version (v1.0): 4th October 2018

Revision history

Version number ¹	Author	Date	Summary of and rationale for changes

¹ 1.1, 1.2 etc. are used for minor changes and 2.0, 3.0 etc. for major changes (as defined in the University’s Guidance on processes supporting curriculum changes)