

Programme Specification: Post Graduate Taught For Academic Year 2026/27

1. Course Summary

Names of programme and award title(s)	MSc in Clinical Pharmacy Practice PG Dip in Clinical Pharmacy Practice PG Cert in Clinical Pharmacy Practice MSc in Clinical Pharmacy Practice (Independent Prescribing) PG Dip in Clinical Pharmacy Practice (Independent Prescribing) PG Cert in Clinical Pharmacy Practice (Independent Prescribing)
Award type	Taught Masters
Mode of study	Modular Part-time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 7
Normal length of the programme	The programme is offered part-time by distance learning over 1-5 years.
Maximum period of registration	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
Location of study	Keele Campus Online
Accreditation (if applicable)	Not applicable, except for the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists that is accredited by the General Pharmaceutical Council
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	<p>UK students (part-time):</p> <p>MSc (180 credits) for 2026/27 is £4,400 (per year of study)* PG Dip (120 credits) for 2026/27 is £4,400 (per year of study)* PG Cert (60 credits) for 2026/27 is £4,400*</p> <p>International students (part-time)</p> <p>MSc (180 credits) for 2026/27 is £4,400 (per year of study)* PG Dip (120 credits) for 2026/27 is £4,400 (per year of study)* PG Cert (60 credits) for 2026/27 is £4,400*</p>

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.

* 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/>

2. Overview of the Programme

In the fast changing world of Pharmacy and health care provision, standing still is not an option, but you may, understandably, feel under-equipped to meet the new challenges. Our distance learning programme in Clinical Pharmacy Practice has been developed to meet the needs of pharmacists working in any patient-facing sector of practice, including hospital pharmacy, community pharmacy and in a GP practice. The choice of modules includes clinical modules and professional skills modules such as Leadership, and the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists, in order to provide you with a wider view of healthcare and equip you with the knowledge, skills and confidence to be able to develop and extend your clinical and professional role as part of a multidisciplinary health care team. The Programme is designed to allow you choice and flexibility in your progression to Certificate, Diploma and Masters Awards, to meet your specific professional development needs and advance your professional practice. The programme links to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Foundation and Advanced Pharmacy Frameworks, to enable you to meet the relevant competencies and provide evidence for your continued professional development.

Postgraduate Pharmacy study at Keele has a reputation for providing stimulating courses to pharmacists and other healthcare professionals. We offer a flexible, multidisciplinary approach that ensures our courses encompass a broad range of skills and are responsive to the changing healthcare environment. We are closely in touch, through our advisors and networks, with NHS development and service needs. We are recognised nationally as a centre of excellence for postgraduate education delivered by distance learning. Our programmes are highly acclaimed by students, employers, purchasers and external course assessors for their structure, content and end value in relation to service, professional and career development. We are happy to put you in touch with our former students for their independent view.

3. Aims of the programme

Keele's Postgraduate Clinical Pharmacy Practice Programme aims to:

- Build on your existing knowledge of disease states, pharmacology, pharmacokinetics and therapeutics to enable you to apply this in a clinical setting.
- Equip you to assess drug therapy for effectiveness, safety, compatibility, patient acceptability and cost, and use this information to make effective, evidence based interventions and optimise prescribing.
- Encourage you to develop an understanding of the principles of pharmaceutical care and problem-solving approach to clinical practice.
- Provide you with a wider view of healthcare and equip you with sufficient knowledge and skills to be able to develop and extend your professional role.
- Increase your confidence in your ability to contribute to patient care as part of the multi-disciplinary healthcare team.
- Provide you with a structured learning programme that will help you apply your knowledge and skills in daily practice.
- Encourage you to develop a reflective approach to your clinical pharmacy practice.
- Encourage you to develop the self-discipline of private study and self-directed learning that will be continued beyond Keele's Programme in your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) as an independent learner.

In addition, you will develop valuable practical skills including written and oral communication, and the ability to design a project, collect, analyse and interpret data.

4. What you will learn

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do if you make full use of the opportunities for learning that we provide to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, and skills.

By studying on Keele's Postgraduate Clinical Pharmacy Practice Programme:

A You will obtain knowledge and understanding and develop your practical skills in accordance with the specific learning outcomes that are defined in the modules that you choose. The learning outcomes are compatible with study at Masters level as defined by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

You will find more details of individual module learning outcomes on the School of Allied Health Professions and Pharmacy's postgraduate website:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/postgraduatestudy/postgraduatecourses/clinicalpharmacypractice/>

B You will develop the 'thinking' skills that will enable you to:

B1 Identify and solve clinical problems in practical situations relating to patient care, medicines optimisation and prescribing (C,D,M)

- B2** Apply your knowledge base and understanding to 'real life' situations (C,D,M)
- B3** Plan, conduct and report on an investigation (C,D,M)
- B4** Critically analyse published literature (C,D,M)
- B5** Relate theory in published literature to real issues in practice (C,D,M)
- B6** Define a problem and formulate a research question/hypothesis with identifiable objectives and outcomes (M)
- B7** Develop a comprehensive understanding and critical awareness of a chosen field of your professional practice, through research and enquiry (M)

C You will develop the practical skills that will enable you to:

- C1** Communicate efficiently and effectively with patients and other healthcare professionals (C,D,M)
- C2** Read, select and interpret relevant information from medical notes (C,D,M)
- C3** Interpret prescribing data to evaluate and optimise prescribing (C,D,M)
- C4** Develop prescription-monitoring skills (C,D,M)
- C5** Locate and interpret patient-specific data to maximise their pharmaceutical care (C,D,M)
- C6** Encourage patients to adopt health enhancing/protecting behaviours (C,D,M)
- C7** Collect and interpret data collected as a result of an investigation (C,D) or research project (M)
- C8** Identify published literature relevant to your studies (C,D,M)
- C9** Cite relevant published evidence to support your written work (C,D,M)
- C10** Select (C,D) and use (M) appropriate audit/research methods
- C11** Plan and conduct an independent learning project through research and enquiry that will inform the development of your professional practice/services (M)
- C12** Produce a structured project report (M)

D You will develop the key life/transferable skills that will enable you to:

- D1** Generally communicate efficiently and effectively both in writing and orally (C,D,M)
- D2** Express key concepts and theories in 'your own words' (C,D,M)
- D3** Problem solve in a variety of theoretical and practical situations (C,D,M)
- D4** Work effectively on your own (C,D,M)
- D5** Work effectively as part of a team (C,D,M)
- D6** Use IT appropriately (C,D,M)
- D7** Manage your time effectively (C,D,M)
- D8** Evaluate/reflect on your own performance (C,D,M)
- D9** Identify your continuing professional development needs (C,D,M)

Keele Graduate attributes

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social, environmental and ethical responsibility**. You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

5. How is the programme taught?

You will study on this Programme using a variety of learning tools. For the Certificate (C) and Diploma (D) elements of the Programme, the principal delivery medium to enable you to acquire knowledge is the online distance learning (DL) modules. These modules have been carefully designed to incorporate activities that will develop your understanding of particular issues and concepts, application of knowledge to practice, and help you to reflect on your current practice. They also encourage further, self-directed, learning for your continued professional development. The online DL provision is complemented by collaborative computer-mediated learning and, for some modules, occasional face-to-face (f-2-f)/ online study days or workshops. These provide an opportunity for you to network and share ideas with other course participants.

For the Masters (M) element of the Programme, knowledge and skills are acquired through f-2-f or online workshops, group-work with other students and tutors. Your Academic Mentor / Supervisor provides direction and additional tuition to help you to design and conduct your Researching Professional Practice Project.

If you chose to study the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists as part of this programme, you may be required to attend f-2-f study days at Keele during the six month course. More information can be found on our website:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/postgraduatestudy/postgraduatecourses/independentprescribing/>

Students on the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists must attend all necessary face-to-face study days for this course. Failure to meet this requirement, which is a course accreditation requirement of the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC), will mean that the student will not be awarded the certification of completion which is a requirement for their registration as an independent prescriber with the GPhC. Any student who, for good reason, cannot attend a study day will normally be given the opportunity, where feasible, to attend the same study day with the next cohort of students. In this event, the student may not be permitted to sit the assessment until the next cohort if the programme team are of the opinion that the study day was essential to the development of knowledge and skills that may be examined in the assessment.

6. Teaching Staff

Your learning will be supported by our experienced team of Programme Managers, Academic Tutors and Professional Services Staff. More information about members of the team can be found in the staff biographies section of the School of Allied Health Professions and Pharmacy website: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/ahpp/ourpeople/>. The programme is also supported by Course Tutors who have a formal education role with Keele. Course Tutors are pharmacists working in practice. Course Tutors contribute to the development and delivery of the course as well as marking assessments and providing feedback to students.

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.

7. What is the structure of the programme?

Students may choose from a selection of modules depending on their sector of practice. The list of modules available can be found in Annex 3. You will find further information about all of the modules available for this programme on the University's website:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/postgraduatestudy/postgraduatecourses/clinicalpharmacypractice/>

A total of 60 credits are required to achieve the Certificate award, 120 credits for the Diploma and 180 credits for the MSc. You may choose to incorporate the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists (45 credits) into the Diploma or MSc award. You can also study individual elements of the programme on a module by module basis. This allows you maximum flexibility to accumulate credits towards an award. Annex 2 shows the different pathways and awards available within the programme.

Achievement of the Masters award requires completion of the professional MSc year. The professional MSc year consists of three compulsory modules: Introduction to Research Methods (15 credits), Research in Practice (15 credits) and the Researching Professional Practice Project (30 credits).

You will study most elements of the Programme at a distance, in your own home or your workplace. Depending on your choice of modules you might also attend some study days at the University and/or participate in collaborative computer-mediated workshops. If you choose to study the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists you may be required to attend face to face study days at Keele.

Modules must normally be completed within six months. For the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for

Pharmacists, where there is a prolonged interruption of a student's studies during the course, they must complete the course in no more than two years from the start date. If the student does not complete all elements of the course within two years then the whole course will need to be repeated.

8. Final and intermediate awards

Master's Degree	180 credits	180 credits at Level 7
Postgraduate Diploma	120 credits	120 credits at Level 7
Postgraduate Certificate	60 credits	60 credits at Level 7

9. How is the Programme Assessed?

Assessment is entirely by coursework for the Certificate (C), Diploma (D) and MSc (M) courses, with the exception of the Independent Prescribing Course. A variety of assessment methods are used.

All of the modules (C,D) contain Practice Based Assignments that will assess your knowledge, problem solving skills, and data interpretation skills in relation to application of knowledge to practice, patient care and medicines optimisation. These also assess your ability to critically appraise the literature and relate published theory to everyday practice.

Practice-based Assignments (C,D), Project Protocol development (M) and the Researching Professional Practice Report (M) assess 'thinking' and practical skills, and your ability to plan, conduct and report on an investigation. They also assess your ability to critically appraise the literature and relate published theory to everyday practice.

All modules (C,D) also assess your ability to relate theory to practice, and self-evaluation of, and reflection on, your own performance and CPD needs.

The nature of the assessments develops your written and oral communication skills. Practical skills and key life/transferable skills are assessed within the methods described above.

Each method of assessment is supported by clear criteria for marking; these are explained in the relevant Student Handbooks. The minimum pass mark is 50%. The IP Clinical and Consultation Skills assessment has a 70% pass mark; a requirement from the General Pharmaceutical Council. Module compensation is not allowed.

The summative assessments are supported by a variety of formative assessment activities that include online discussions, formative feedback on elements of coursework, contributions to online collaborative activities and study days, and feedback on draft proposals.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your 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.

10. Accreditation

The Independent Prescribing Course is accredited by the General Pharmaceutical Council. Further Information is available on our website:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/postgraduatestudy/postgraduatecourses/independentprescribing/>

11. University 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/>

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these are detailed in an Annex 1 at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

12. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

To gain admission to the Certificate and Diploma courses, and their individual modules, you must be a

pharmacist registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC), or equivalent for pharmacists working overseas, and be practising either full-time or part-time in a patient-facing role. We recommend that applicants should, normally, have worked in a patient-facing pharmacy setting for 6-12 months prior to commencing the Course so that they have gained some experience of working in this sector. It is also essential that you have the support of your workplace to access patient data where necessary for course learning activities and assessment.

Normally, only applicants with the minimum of a second class degree classification (or equivalent for applicants from outside the UK) in Pharmacy will be accepted onto the programme without interview. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The University reserves the right to interview prospective students and take up academic references. The final decision in any case rests with the University. Candidates are also admitted on the basis of perceived and potential competence to complete the programme.

Applicants who wish to study the MSc year, must have a postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy Practice or equivalent award worth 120 Master's level credits (FHEQ level 7). You must provide evidence (either of credits or qualifications achieved) and full details of the syllabus and assessment to enable assessment of its suitability for entry to this course.

Applicants who wish to study the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists must be registered with the GPhC and meet the eligibility criteria stipulated by the GPhC. All applicants must be able to identify a Designated Prescribing Practitioner for the 90 hour period of supervised learning in practice, for approval by the School of Allied Health Professions and Pharmacy.

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme:
<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/>

Module exemption on the basis of RPEL (Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning) and RPCL (Recognition of Prior Certificated Learning) will be at the discretion of the Programme Manager/Director of Postgraduate Studies. The University's RPL policy can be found at:
<https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/>

English language proficiency requirement

If English is not your first language, you must either:

Hold a degree from an institution where English was the language of instruction. This must have been obtained in the two year period prior to starting the course.

OR

Pass the Academic IELTS - an average of 7.0 with a minimum of 6.5 in all sub-tests is required

Please note that IELTS exam must be no more than two years old at the start of the course for which you have applied.

13. How are students supported on the programme?

- The relevant Handbook(s) will provide you with key information and guidance on structure, content and assessment, including any dates you have to come to study days at Keele and/or participate in online collaborative learning workshops. You will also be provided with guidance on study skills.
- Pastoral and Academic support including decisions on module choices and feedback on assessments will be provided by your Academic Mentor and the Programme Manager. You will also have access to Student Experience and Support Officer and an Independent Advisor in line with University PGT Student Support Guidance.
- If you choose to study the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists you will be required to identify a Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) to mentor you through the programme.
- You will have open access to the Programme Manager, Academic Mentor and the Professional Services Team by e-mail and other means as possible on weekdays during normal working hours. You will be provided with contact details for your Programme Manager, Academic Mentor and the Professional Services Team at the start of the course.
- You will have access to the Programme Manager, Academic Mentors and other students during study days and in collaborative online workshops.
- You will have access to the University's IT support team as well as Keele's Computing Services
- You will have access to other Students, Academic/Programme Tutors and course materials within the School's virtual learning environment - Keele Learning Environment or other suitable platforms.
- You will have access to Keele's Library on campus and via the internet.
- Details of your Academic Tutor and Independent Advisor will be provided in the Programme/Assessment Handbook.

14. Learning Resources

You will study most elements of the Programme at a distance, in your own home or your workplace. Most modules are delivered through self-study materials which comprise of a range of electronic resources that can be accessed through Keele's Learning Environment (KLE), Microsoft Teams or other platforms. These are also used to enhance student support during the course and provide a forum for exchange of ideas and discussion of issues that arise. Depending on your choice of modules you might also attend some study days at the University and/or participate in collaborative computer-mediated workshops.

Keele University Library has many resources for your subject, both on campus and online. Further information can be found at: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/library/>

To access online library services you will need to use your student log-in details. Full information is given in the Handbook regarding accessing online journals.

In the Master's year, you will need to attend online tutorials and meet online with your tutor where necessary. You will study the online modules and conduct your project, at a distance, with the support of a Keele-based Tutor.

15. Other Learning Opportunities

The PG academic Certificate that is awarded by UK universities that provide the Joint Programme Board (JPB) route of study, or equivalent, will be accepted in full (i.e. all 60 M level credits) as a direct entry route to the Diploma year for the Clinical Pharmacy Practice award pathway.

Pathway to Diploma and MSc awards that includes Independent Prescribing

This is a flexible pathway that allows you to incorporate the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists within the Clinical Pharmacy Practice Certificate, Diploma and MSc academic awards. You can achieve this by either first completing one of the Certificate courses described earlier and then the IP Course, or vice versa, to gain the Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy Practice (Independent Prescribing). The 3 modules leading to the MSc are compulsory. Full details of the IP course are available from our website: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/postgraduatestudy/postgraduatecourses/independentprescribing/>

16. Additional Costs

There are no additional costs for this course. However, students may incur general expenses related to university study, such as for printing, textbooks and other materials. Students who undertake a placement may be responsible for additional costs, such as travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs. For further information, please refer to the additional costs information.

Mandatory costs

You can expect some additional costs as a student on this course, which may support learning activities, specialist equipment, fieldwork, placements, or other course-related requirements. Details of these mandatory costs are outlined below to help you plan accordingly.

Students are responsible for all costs incurred in travelling to study days for the Independent Prescribing module. This cost will depend on how far you live from campus, and your chosen method of travel.

Optional costs

In addition to the mandatory costs listed, there may be optional costs that students can choose to incur to enhance their learning experience. These are not required to complete the course. Details of these optional costs are outlined below to help you plan accordingly.

If you are studying on the Independent Prescribing module, you may be required to purchase a stethoscope. The costs for these vary, but we estimate £18-£100.

Students may also incur general expenses related to university study, such as for printing, textbooks and other materials. For further information, please refer to the additional costs information.

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%.

17. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from students on the on the programme that is sent on an ad hoc basis, or as part of the annual student feedback week is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Programme Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

18. The principles of programme design

The Clinical Pharmacy Practice Programme is continually developing and receives input from practising pharmacists to ensure it is up-to-date and highly relevant to your practice. Other stakeholders also provide feedback to the programme including Chief Pharmacists, Community Pharmacy Organisations, Clinical Tutors and current and former students.

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>

b. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>

19. Annex 1 - Programme Specific Regulations

Programme Regulations: Clinical Pharmacy Practice

Final Award and Award Titles	MSc in Clinical Pharmacy Practice MSc in Clinical Pharmacy Practice (Independent Prescribing)
Intermediate Award(s)	PG Dip in Clinical Pharmacy Practice PG Cert in Clinical Pharmacy Practice PG Dip in Clinical Pharmacy Practice (Independent Prescribing) PG Cert in Clinical Pharmacy Practice (Independent Prescribing)
Last modified	November 2025
Programme Specification	https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmespecifications

The University's Academic Regulations which can be found on the Keele University website (<https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/>)[1] apply to and regulate the programme, other than in instances where the specific programme regulations listed below over-ride them. These programme regulations list:

- *Exemptions* which are characterised by the omission of the relevant regulation.
- *Variations* which are characterised by the replacement of part of the regulation with alternative wording.
- *Additional Requirements* which set out what additional rules that apply to students in relation to this programme.

The following **exemptions, variations** and **additional requirements** to the University regulations have been checked by Academic Services and have been approved by the Faculty Education Committee.

A) EXEMPTIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where an exemption from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

For the whole duration of their studies, students on this Programme are exempt from the following regulations:

- **No exemptions apply.**

B) VARIATIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where a variation from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

Variation 1: Maximum period of registration

This programme varies from [Regulation C1](#):

- C1, 1.1: For the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists, where there is a prolonged interruption of a student's studies during the course, they must complete the course in no more than two years from the start date. If the student does not complete all elements of the course within two years then the whole course should be repeated.

Variation 2: Taught postgraduate degree requirements

This programme varies from [Regulation D5](#):

- D5, 4.2: Module compensation is not allowed on this programme.

Variation 3: Assessment Criteria

This programme varies from [Regulation D1](#):

- D1, 4.2: For any piece of coursework where a student has 'killed the patient' or subjected them to considerable potential risk / harm a fail will be awarded. Due to the nature of the qualification, any evidence of dangerous or illegal prescribing practice seen within any part of any of the assessed components of the Independent Prescribing Preparatory Course for Pharmacists will result in a fail for the whole module. In addition, a fail may be awarded if a student's performance causes the examiners serious general concerns about their competence.

Variation 4: Reassessment

This programme varies from [Regulation D1](#):

- CPP operate short modules in quick succession out of the semester structure and so students need to embark on reassessment based on the marks on the KLE before the exam board has formally confirmed the mark. Therefore, the reassessment would be undertaken with these marks agreed by chair's action and provisional until confirmed at the examination board.

Variation 5: Progression to the dissertation stage

The programme varies from [Regulation D2](#):

- For the Masters year, progression to the dissertation module (Researching Professional Practice - PHA-

40165) is permitted only after successfully passing the following two compulsory modules: Introduction to research methods PHA-40161, Research in Practice PHA-40163 and receive a favourable ethical opinion where appropriate.

[1] References to University Regulations in this document apply to the content of the University's Regulatory Framework as set out on the University website here <https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/>.

20. Annex 2 - Clinical Pharmacy Practice Programme Pathways

Click this link to view the pathways available through this programme: [Clinical Pharmacy Practice Programme Pathways.docx](#)

21. Annex 3 - Module Availability

Modules are available throughout the year (except August and December) on a monthly basis unless stated otherwise below. Module choice and availability is subject to change based on student demand.

Modules suitable for all pharmacists in patient-facing roles (available as 10 credit modules except where specified otherwise)	Module code	Variation to availability	10 credit modules particularly suitable for pharmacists working in secondary care	Module code	Variation to availability	10 credit modules particularly suitable for pharmacists working in primary care (including community pharmacy)	Module code
Cardiovascular Disease 1	PHA-40061		Critical Care and Parenteral Nutrition	PHA-40066		Introduction to Public Health	PHA-40149
Cardiovascular Disease 2	PHA-40061		Hepatic Disease	PHA-40068		Women's Health	PHA-40153
Central Nervous System	PHA-40065		Patient Centred Care and Medicines Optimisation	PHA-40145			
Child Health	PHA-40141		Malignant Disease	PHA-40056			
Education Theory and Practice for Health Professionals	PHA-40049		Renal Disease	PHA-40052			
Endocrine Disease	PHA-40063		Surgical	PHA-40050			
Evaluating Practice	PHA-40147		Introduction to hospital clinical pharmacy	PHA-40188			
Gastrointestinal Disease	PHA-40062						
Infections	PHA-40058						
Joint and Bone Disease	PHA-40143						
Leadership and Change Management	PHA-40159						

Mental Health	PHA-40055						
Monitoring Therapy	PHA-40053						
Personal Effectiveness and Collaborative Working	PHA-40132	Jan- May start					
Quality in Healthcare and Evidence Based Practice	PHA-40121	Jan - May start					
Rational Prescribing and Medicines Optimisation	PHA-40167						
Respiratory disease	PHA-40051						
Foundation Practice Development (15c)	PHA-40234	May and Oct start					
Independent Prescribing Preparatory course for Pharmacists (45c)	PHA-40071	Feb and Sept start					
Advanced Practice Development (15c)	PHA-40073	May and Oct start					
Core Clinical Assessment Skills	PHA-40238	Jan and Sept start					
Advanced Clinical Assessment Skills	PHA-40240	Sept start					
MSc Modules							
Introduction to research methods (15c)	PHA-40161	Jan start					
Research in Practice (15c)	PHA-40163	May start					
Researching in Professional Practice (30c)	PHA-40165	Sept start					

Version History

This document

Date Approved: 15 May 2026

Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
1	2025/26	DAXA KNOWLES	12 June 2025	
1	2024/25	ROSE O'BYRNE	11 June 2024	
2	2023/24	ROSE O'BYRNE	04 April 2024	Name change in certificate award as approved by January FEC
1.1	2023/24	ROSE O'BYRNE	04 September 2023	Variations to the University's classification rules removed pending a review
1	2023/24	ROSE O'BYRNE	18 April 2023	
1	2022/23	SIMON WHITE	19 August 2022	