

A Career in Paediatric Dentistry in the Midlands & East



Developing people
for health and
healthcare

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What is Paediatric Dentistry?

- Oral healthcare for children from birth to adolescence whose needs cannot be completely managed by the general dental practitioner.
- Including those with:
 - Extensive oral disease.
 - Dento-alveolar trauma.
 - Developmental disorders of the teeth and mouth.
 - Oral health care which is complicated by intellectual, medical, physical, social, psychological and/or emotional factors/disability.
 - Anxiety or are too young to accept routine dental treatment.

Why choose this specialty?

- You **enjoy** working with children and young people, and their families
- You like **variety** and **challenges**.....
 - Paediatric dentistry is a unique speciality covering all aspects of oral health care for children. Including restorative treatment, endodontic treatment, prosthetics, minor oral surgery procedures, and interceptive orthodontics.
 - Paediatric dentists often work in multidisciplinary teams within dentistry such as with our colleagues in oral surgery, restorative dentistry, oral medicine and orthodontists.
 - They also work with the wider medical team including paediatricians, surgeons and anaesthetists as part of the overall management of children with complex medical problems.
 - In addition they may work with other agencies such as health visitors and social workers in managing vulnerable children.
- It is a **versatile** career (working in community dental services, specialist practice, hospital dental services and academia).
- It is a very **rewarding** and growing speciality.

Future challenges

- Children are becoming increasingly complex with additional needs and high expectations.
- Improving the oral health of children and reducing the decay rate in children with preventative measures, particularly in those under 5 years of age is a challenge and a national development strategy.
- Managing services such that we are treating the right patient at the right time in the right place by the right people.

Typical Day

- There is no typical day in paediatric dentistry as services and patients are so varied.
- Dental cases you might come across include: management of patients with routine caries, molar incisor hypomineralisation, supernumerary teeth, dental trauma, and developmental defects.
- Treatment of patients using relative analgesia intra-venous sedation or general anaesthetic.
- Treating children with co-morbidities and additional needs.

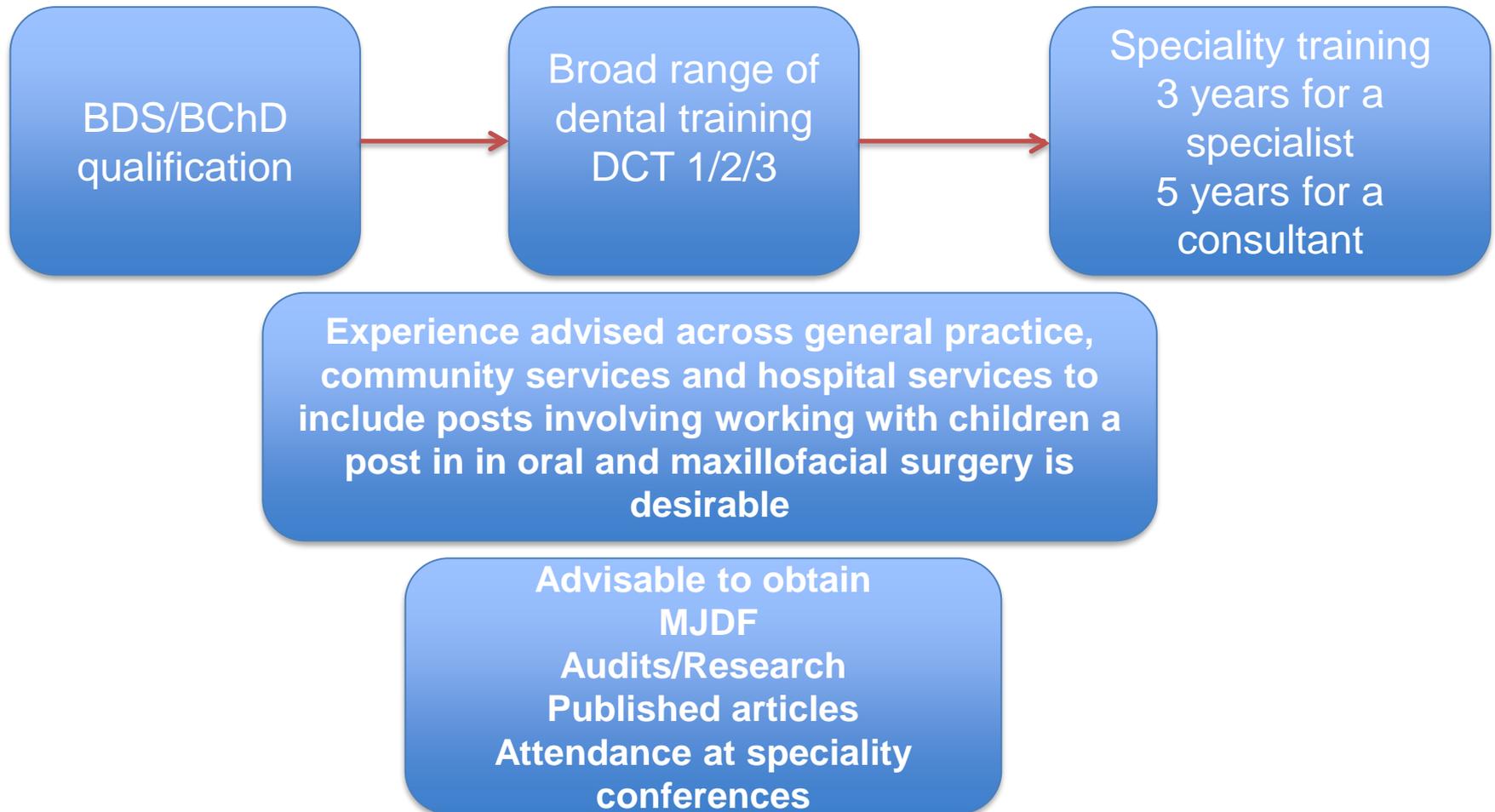
Other roles you may have as a paediatric dentist....

- Safeguarding lead/attendance at case conferences.
- Teaching and training.
- Research.
- Audit.
- Clinical leadership.

Personal Qualities for this career

- **Enjoyment working with children and young people.**
- **Excellent communication skills.**
- **Good interpersonal skills showing empathy and understanding.**
- **Leadership skills.**
- **Resilience.**
- **Practical skills.**
- **Life long learner.**
- **In line with all specialities, trainees need to be **reliable, self-motivated, punctual, flexible and good team players.****

Training Pathway



Training pathway

Curriculum and guide can be found at:

<https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/dental-faculties/fds/careers-in-dental-surgery/postgraduate-training-jcptd/higher-specialist-training-documents-and-curricula/#paediatricdentistry>

Requirements During Training

- Work place based assessments (supervised learning events)
- E Portfolio
- Life support courses; PLS, APLS, ILS
- Audit
- Presentations
- Publications
- Safeguarding courses
- Teaching
- Managerial experience
- Annual review of competence progression (ARCP)

Recruitment

- Paediatric dentistry follows a national recruitment programme.
- Pre CCST interviews are held once a year in May.
- Post CCST interviews are held twice a year in May and November.
- This involves an OSCE style interview with various stations to work through.

Recruitment

- Some training programmes offer 5 year training amalgamating the pre (3 years) and post (2 years) CCST training within the same deanery.
- Other models offer the initial pre CCST (3 year) programme and then separate post CCST (2 year) training which will be interviewed for separately and could involve moving across deaneries for post CCST training.

Competition Ratios

On average four candidates are interviewed for one post.

Why train in the M&E?

- Largest regions in the country
- Diverse area resulting in wide range of pathology.
- Mix of smaller DGHs, large teaching hospitals, tertiary units and access to community clinics ensures broad training and excellent opportunities.



Demonstrating commitment to Specialty

- Paediatric experience within jobs but also outside of the work place.
- Understanding current trends and hot topics within the speciality.
- Audits, service evaluations and research projects within dental services that involve the child/adolescent patient.

Careers within Paediatric Dentistry

- NHS (within hospital/community services)
 - Consultant in paediatric dentistry.
 - B and C specialist.
 - Clinical Director for Dental Services.
- University academic career, university teaching sessions, research.
- Independent Specialist practice.
- GDP with specialist/speciality opportunities.

Where to go for more information...

- NHS health careers
- The Paediatric Dentistry Consultants and Specialists in your local services
- The General Dental Council provide up-to-date information on Specialty training and the specialist lists
- British Society of Paediatric Dentistry
- The Royal Colleges of Surgeons websites: Edinburgh, England, Glasgow.
- International Association of Paediatric Dentistry
- European Academy of Paediatric Dentistry