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# KENT AND MEDWAY MEDICAL SCHOOL

## Offer Holder Newsletter

April 2024

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Dear Future Doctors,

Welcome to your first Kent and Medway Medical School (KMMS) Offer Holder newsletter for 2024 entry.

Over the next few months, we will be providing important updates about what you need to know and do to prepare for medical school and to give you some news about our KMMS community.

Details regarding your DBS check and Occupational Health checks will come in late May or June. KMMS pays for both of these but if you want to get ahead please do try and dig out your vaccination history.

We want to tailor these newsletters to cover what you most want to hear about so please let us know what you would like us to include in future editions by filling out the [feedback form](#).

Don't forget that if there's anything you would like clarity on, you can catch us on [Instagram](#) every Wednesday from 12 - 2pm.

Best wishes

**Maisie, Mary, Philip and the Admissions Team**

### In this newsletter:

- [Visit Us](#)
- [Finance](#)

- [Joining the KMMS Community](#)
- [Accommodation](#)
- [Whats going on at KMMS?](#)
- [Research Spotlight](#)
- [Our Students](#)

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## Visit Us

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It was lovely to meet many of you at our Offer Holder day in March and we'd love to hear what you thought of the event, what you enjoyed and what you think we could do better so please do take the time to fill in our [feedback form](#).

Don't worry if you were unable to make the Offer Holder Day there is a series of other opportunities for you to meet with us coming up over the next few months.

Please do let us know you are coming so that we can give you a bespoke offer holder talk at any of the events.

### [University of Kent Open Day\\*](#)

Saturday 20th April 10:00-14:00

Pears Building

University of Kent Campus

To book your place please visit the [Open Day page](#).

### [Kent and Medway Medical School Open Day](#)

Saturday 11th May, 09:30-16:00

Please book your place [online](#).

### [Virtual Offer Holder Event](#)

Thursday 23rd May, 17:00-18:30

Please book your place [online](#) so that we can send you the Zoom link.

### [Canterbury Christ Church Answers Day\\*](#)

Sunday 9th June 09:00-15:00

Verena Holmes Building

Canterbury Christ Church Campus

To book your place please visit the [Answers Day page](#).

### [University of Kent Open Day\\*](#)

Saturday 6th July 10:00-14:00

Pears Building  
University of Kent Campus  
To book your place visit the [Open Day page](#).

\*Please be aware only the facilities on the campus stipulated will be open.

## I've got an offer, what happens next?

### Finance

#### Student Finance Application

Applications for student finance are open for the academic year 2024/5. It can take 6-8 weeks to process an application and sometimes longer if they require more information from you or someone else connected to your account. If you have not applied already, we recommend you do so as soon as you can to ensure your funding can be paid when you start your course. Some helpful websites:

- [Gov.uk](#)
- [Student Room](#)

If you are having issues with your funding application you can contact us via [studentsupport@kmms.ac.uk](mailto:studentsupport@kmms.ac.uk) for guidance.

**STUDENT FINANCE  
EXPLAIN**   
**2024 TO 2025**

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## [Budgeting for your degree](#)

We really encourage you to do some financial planning before embarking on your course, this is particularly important for medical students as the course is very intense. There is information about budgeting on our website which we hope you will find useful.

[Funding your degree](#)

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## Joining the KMMS Community

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### [2024/25 Facebook Group](#)

We have set up the 2024 Offer Holders Facebook Group. This group offers a chance for you to chat to fellow Offer Holders and ask questions from current students and members of the KMMS team before you start in September.

In previous years this has proved to be a useful starting point to make connections and develop relevant WhatsApp groups.

### [Join the KMMS 2023/24 Facebook Group](#)



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### [Watch Year 4 student Mimoza on Placement in First Year](#)

Several of our students are active on various social media platforms and offer insights into their experiences as a medical student at KMMS. We will share links to some of them in these newsletters. First off is Mimoza who is now a Year 4 student.



REEL SHARED ON DEC 20, 2021  
BY MIM.MEDIC

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### National Pet Day 2024

Thursday 11th April was National Pet Day to celebrate we would like to highlight a very important member of our KMMS community. [Olive the KMMS Therapy Dog](#), who provides support to our students and faculty.



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## Recommended Reading List

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Several of you have asked what additional books and other resources you need to read before starting at KMMS. To reassure you, there is no mandatory reading materials for our incoming students and we would prefer you to concentrate on your exams, degree or other priorities before joining us.

We will, however, share an optional list of books that have been recommended by our faculty and current students. This year we would also love to hear your suggestions. If you wish to share what you're reading in preparation for medical school, please do so by

following this [link](#).

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## Accommodation

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### Applying for University Accommodation

All KMMS students are guaranteed accommodation on one of the university campuses as long as they complete their applications before July 31<sup>st</sup>. You need to have accepted your offer either as insurance or firm before applying for accommodation.

Specific room allocations will be communicated to our students after the A-level results day (Thursday 15 August).

More details about the KMMS accommodation offer at both universities, including pricing, can be found on the [Accommodation Page](#) of our website. Please note you will need to use the dedicated KMMS [application form](#) to ensure you are co-located with other KMMS students and have the correct contract length, as the KMMS academic year is longer than that of most other students at our parent universities.

If you have any requirements or requests for accommodation please contact the accommodation teams at [Canterbury Christ Church University](#) and the [University of Kent](#).

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## Whats going on at KMMS?

### Women's Health Innovation Summit



On Wednesday 6th March, we held Kent & Medway's first ever Women's Health Innovation

Summit. The event marked the launch of the new partnership between KMMS, the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board, Health Innovation Kent Surrey and Sussex and Discovery Business park. It focused on working together to address the health inequalities for women in our region and attracted over 130 women's health experts. Read more about the event [online](#).

Key speakers representing each of partners at the event included: Dean of KMMS **Professor Chris Holland**; **Dr Kate Langford**, Chief Medical Officer at NHS Kent & Medway ICB; **Jane Kennedy**, Chief Business Officer at Discovery Park; **Dr Maryann Ferreux**, Medical Director, Health Innovation Kent Surrey Sussex; **Natasha Walton**, Deputy Director Digital Diagnostics & Transformation at NHS England and **Dr Mayur Vibhuti**, Chief Clinical Information Officer (all pictured above).

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### INTERACT Showcase Event



A special INTERACT showcase event on the future of mental healthcare, including a roundtable discussion, will be hosted at the Turner Contemporary in Margate, Friday 19 April 2024. The [INTERACT](#) research project, is an interdisciplinary research project led by Professor Lisa Dikomitis, Director of Research at Kent and Medway Medical School (KMMS) and Director of the Centre for Health Services Studies. It works with community members to imagine the future of mental healthcare. The project aims to better understand the mental health needs of local, underprivileged communities. To find out more about INTERACT and to register for the event please read the article on our [KMMS news page](#).

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## Research Spotlight

### Year 4 Students Research Success



In Year 4 students have been given the opportunity to complete an individual research project (IRP). Two of our students, Oseyi Omokhoa and Mary McDonald, presented their research into aspects of breast cancer care at the East



Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) Clinical Audit Symposium held in the Pears building in March. We are delighted to share that Oseyi - pictured with Dr Des Holden, Chief Medical Officer EKHUFT - also won the Medical Student Project Award for her work, a clinical audit she completed focussing on identifying racial inequalities in the treatment pathway of Black Asian and Minority Ethnic patients with breast cancer who were treated at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Hospital Breast Care Unit.

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### Alzheimer's diagnosis Research Project



Dr Joanne Rodda, Senior Lecturer at KMMS, and Consultant Psychiatrist at the Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) and Professor Lisa Dikomititis, Director of Research at KMMS and Director of the Centre for Health Services Studies and Honorary Consultant in Patient and Public Engagement at KMPT, worked with Professor Jonathan Schott and Dr Ashvini Keshavan at the National Hospital for Neurology and University College London (UCL) as co-applicants for a successful £4 million grant to fund a study of the application of a blood biomarker for Alzheimer's disease in routine clinical practice.

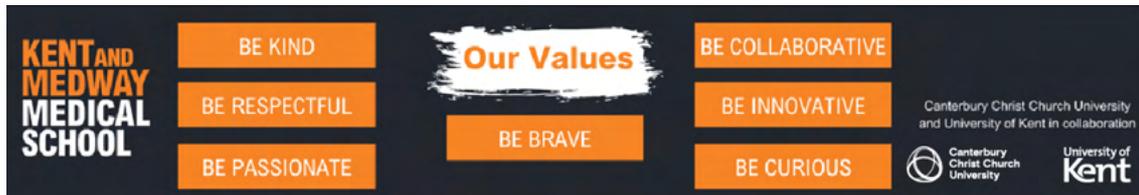
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### £1.14 million funding success for undergraduate research opportunities

We are delighted to announce that we have been successful in securing funding from [National Institute for Health and Care Research \(NIHR\)](#) to support medical students expand their experience in research. The funds will support 28 KMMS students to undertake summer internships in research, and 21 students to study intercalated Master's

degrees over the next three years.

This is an important landmark in our commitment to creating a research pipeline from your student days and throughout your career. The full article is [on our website](#).



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