**Phase 2b FAQs**

**Tips for LICP1**

**General**

* Check that all your placement clothes have pockets to put things in, so you don’t have to carry a bag around
* Find a friendly doctor and stick with them
* Have a time frame of what you’d like to get done and by when and communicate this to the doctors on the ward.
* Don’t be afraid to not go on ward round if it’s not helpful or leave early if there’s not much going on- you can always stay later on days that there is a lot happening.
* If you’re finding your ward has a lot of other students on, ask if you can go in on a weekend and there’s usually more opportunities to do stuff.
* Take as many opportunities to practice exams as possible, even if you don’t really know what you’re doing.
* Plan your days to you know what extra things you want to do (clinical skills, signoffs etc.)
* Try to get confident with taking histories by yourself, it's not as important to always present them - doing it with another student is enough
* Sometimes there may be nothing to do - if you find yourself in this situation just ask staff members if there is anything you can help with/any patient that would be suitable to take a history from/practise examinations on (the F1 on the ward is a good place to start).
* Just because you are on a specific ward does not mean you can only do those histories/examinations (e.g. just neuro on a neuro ward). All the patients have hearts and lungs etc why not examine them too.

**Doncaster**

* Costa (at the main entrance) has good coffee and an app you can collect points on if you buy lots of it. There’s also a subway.
* Parking on streets around Doncaster hospital was some of the hardest I’ve encountered, so either get there early to have enough time to find a space or use the hospital park and ride (park opposite the racecourse).

**Rotherham**

* There is a student room and lockers for you
* The ASU is the best place to learn so make sure to get the most out of when you are timetabled then and the rest of the time just try to find patients to practise on
* You can more reliably get scrubs from linen services than changing rooms (behind the cafeteria)
* Remember to sign in

**Chesterfield**

* The education team at Chesterfield are great, so if you want bloods/cannulas etc. signed off /are struggling to do so, ask for help and they will set you up with plenty of opportunities.
* Parking was free at Chesterfield during COVID but if not then there is a large lay-by opposite the turning off the main road into the hospital, you can park here for free as long as you get there before it fills up so early ish (like 8am). Just beware on very wet days this layby does flood
* Chesterfield has really good cafes at the main entrance where you can get good price hot food. Also a nice cafe called retreat that is a bit out of the way and has a staff only section that medical students can use to have a quieter space for lunch. There is also nice outdoor seating next to the education centre, and a tipi in a courtyard near retreat, if your placement is in summer.
* If you can’t find a ward or clinic, ask the reception desk volunteers (the reception team have up to date clinic rooms so they will know if it has been moved somewhere else).
* The education centre library has all the textbooks you need for osces and all the Oxford clinical handbooks too.
* If you attend the weekend shifts you can go round with the on call covering several wards which was good, or go to EMU at the weekend for practise taking histories and clerking.
* **Gastroenterology ward (Chesterfield)**
	+ Visit endoscopy and arrange to go there for one morning or afternoon to get multiple cannulas signed off. Make sure you arrange in advance, don’t just turn up and expect to do it on the day.
* **Dialysis Unit (Chesterfield)**
	+ The dialysis unit we’re keen to take students when asked - don’t turn up without asking as it’s not a registered PIE so you would have to arrange it with the dialysis sister or unit manager.

**Royal Hallamshire**

* **Ward Q2 (Stroke Rehab)**
	+ A lot of patients are hard to take histories from so go to other places to try this (like SAC in NGH).
	+ It’s not the best to get clinical skills signed off like cannulas and blood cultures so if the opportunity comes up definitely take it. Lots of NG tubes on this ward so watch nurses do it as this is a skill you will get signed off in older years.

**General Phase 2b Tips**

* Don’t compare your level of clinical ability to others- you have so many months and years to get good at things.
* Start revision early
* Practise examinations on your housemates and friends
* Choose your ethics SSC case as early as possible so that you have time to collect all the information you need