

Postgraduate School of Anaesthesia, Critical Care and ACCS

St Chads Court
213 Hagley Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B16 9RG

26th July 2021

College tutors Anaesthesia and Faculty tutors ICM
Educational Supervisors Anaesthesia and ICM
Anaesthetic, ACCS and ICM trainees

Dear Colleagues,

New Curriculum August 2021 – self-directed learning time for trainees

As you are aware the new curriculum goes live this August. There is an emphasis on self-directed learning in order to achieve many of the competencies. With this in mind, the Royal College of Anaesthetists has recommended that 2 hours per week be made available to anaesthetists in stages 1 and 2, and 4 hours per week for anaesthetists in stage 3 of training. The School would support the same recommendations for Intensive Care Medicine.

It will be up to Trusts to manage how this happens to suit their rotas e.g. once a week, once a fortnight, once a month etc. It is expected that trainees will discuss with Educational Supervisors how they are going to use this time, have evidence to show if asked, and that they do it in the Trust (unless pre-arranged otherwise).

This will be monitored through the ARCP and quality processes as per normal.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Shireen Edmends
Head of School