

Professional Education and Development (PED) 2026-7 Information and Application

Open to anyone working as a GP within the North-West of England

Course Structure and Philosophy

The course has had a number of names over the thirty years that it has been running. It was developed from the Moving Forwards Course so called to emphasise the original aim of helping doctors identify where they were currently, in terms of personal, professional and practice development, and where they wanted to be and how they were going to get there.

There are currently 24 places on each PED course, divided into groups of eight. The groups are carefully selected so that they contain participants of similar experience. The underlying principle is to help participants develop both personally and professionally. We try to keep the course relevant to your situation and base the course on adult learning and action learning principles using your own experience as the basis for the learning in groups. We also have a SharePoint site that has useful links to documents and online resources.

Timetable

There are three residential modules at the Castle Green Hotel in Kendal:

- Wed 7th – Fri 9th October 2026 = First residential (3 days)
- Wed 9th – Fri 11th June 2027 = Second residential (3 days)
- Thurs 11th – Fri 12th May 2028 = Third residential (2 days)

Between the first and second residential modules, there are 3 study days held on Teams, with (example topics):

- Thurs 26th November 2026 – Change management
- Thurs 21st January 2027 - Resilience
- Thurs 25th March 2027 – Time management and delegation

Please do not apply for PED course if you are not able to attend all of the dates above.

Residentials

The course is based around facilitated small group work. The atmosphere is relaxed and informal. During the first module we shall spend some time looking at what areas you would like to cover; we enclose a list of potential topics but we would be glad to hear of others. We want to check that the type of course and the subjects that we have in mind are what you want.

Our programme plans for the first module include the following areas:

- Looking at your practice
- Opportunities and motivation
- Obstacles and how to overcome them

Study Day Sessions

Study days are held normally on Thursdays starting at 9.30am and finishing at 4.30pm. We make time for written work support and the topics covered may change depending on need and what you say in your applications forms as areas for your development.

Academic Work to gain a PGCert (optional)

There is the opportunity to do three pieces of written work that you will need to prepare during the course and if meeting Level 7 standard can be accredited with The University of Lancashire to gain 60 credits – this is enough to claim a PGCert (or put towards a Diploma or Masters).

In summary, the written work consists of a personal education plan, a practice plan and a portfolio with a significant event analysis and reflection on the effects of your learning through the course. The aim is to get you to critically appraise your current approach and look at published evidence in these areas so that you can develop a robust personal strategy for the future. Although the written work is challenging, many participants have commented over the years on how useful it has been to them.

If this is of interest, please see the attached detail about this. In particular, please consider if your specific work circumstances will allow you to access the information required in order to implement a practice plan.

Once your place on PED is confirmed, you must let us know you wish to join this course with the University of Lancashire before **9am on 20th July 2026**.

A note on accreditation

If you decide to go for the credits and academic work, you must be able to attend the first 2 residentials, three study days and submit the three pieces of written work mentioned - and this will count as **Module MB4023: Personal and Professional Development in General Practice**. This module counts as 60 academic credits and so on successful completion you can exit with a Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Practice, Management and Education.

Costs

1. **PED Course fee:** non-refundable contribution of £500 for attendance at the course towards the educational costs for the PED course (paid in two instalments of £250).
2. **Hotel room costs:** You will need to pay for your overnight hotel room and any other hotel costs, paid on departure. This may vary a little as you move through the course (and is determined by the hotel) but will initially be at a special discounted rate of around £175 per person per night.
3. **Optional PGCert fee:** To have your academic work accredited, The University of Lancashire charges a fee (currently £375) which you will pay once before you start PED (you must enrol and pay ahead of the first residential). This means the total cost for PED with an award of a PG Cert in Clinical Practice, Management and Education and including accommodation is likely around £2000, over the three years of the course. We feel this is rather good value for money!

Application Process

If you wish to apply, please submit this [application form](#) **before 12 noon on 1st June 2026**, submission of which is confirmation that you have noted the information above and can attend all the dates. If we are over-subscribed, your answers will be used to inform who will be the best fit and gain the most from the course. We will let you know if you have a place by the end of June 2026 and at that point you will need to let us know if you wish to do the PGCert.

If you want to discuss the course further, then you can contact one of us:

Dr Stephen Luckhurst: stephen.luckhurst1@nhs.net or Prof Jess Grundy: jess.grundy@nhs.net

We look forward to meeting you