



**1. Programme Title(s) and Code(s):**

<i>Programme Title</i>	<i>UCAS Code</i>	<i>GU Code</i>
Bachelor of Dental Surgery	A200	A200-2101
Bachelor of Dental Surgery (Clinical Dentistry)	A400-2101	

**2. Academic Session:**

2018-19

**3. SCQF Level (see [Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Levels](#)):**

11

**4. Credits:**

600

**5. Entrance Requirements:**

Please refer to University Web pages: <http://www.gla.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/>  
<http://www.gla.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/dentistry/>

**A minimum period of 13 years of study at school is normally required.**

**6. ATAS Certificate Requirement (see [Academic Technology Approval Scheme](#)):**

ATAS Certificate not required

**7. Attendance Type:**

Full Time

**8. Programme Aims:**

To provide the high quality learning opportunities and experiences necessary to enable students to become caring, knowledgeable, competent and reflective dental practitioners who, on graduation, are capable of

<sup>1</sup> This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if full advantage is taken of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each course can be found in course handbooks and other programme documentation and online at [www.gla.ac.uk/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/)

The accuracy of the information in this document is reviewed periodically by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

providing independent, effective and safe primary dental care for patients.

To provide learning opportunities and experiences that encourage a questioning, scientific and self-evaluative approach to clinical practice and that foster the intellectual skills required for future personal and professional development.

To provide learning opportunities and experiences that prepare students to assume their role as effective leaders of a patient care team, which includes the Professionals Complementary to Dentistry.

To provide learning opportunities and experiences that inculcate the appropriate professional and ethical values.

## 9. Intended Learning Outcomes of Programme:

Learning outcomes are expressed at three levels, and are mapped to the General Dental Council's publication, Preparing for Practice – Dental Team Learning Outcomes for Registration (2015 revised edition).

Be competent at: students should have a sound theoretical knowledge and understanding of the subject together with an adequate clinical experience to be able to resolve clinical problems encountered, independently, or without assistance.

Have knowledge of: students should have a sound theoretical knowledge of the subject, but need have only a limited clinical/practical experience.

Be familiar with: students should have a basic understanding of the subject, but need not have direct clinical experience or be expected to carry out procedures independently.

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas.

### Clinical Skills

Learning outcome	Attained by end
1.1 be competent at obtaining and recording a comprehensive and detailed history to include the chief complaint and history of present illness	Year 4
1.2 be competent at obtaining and recording a relevant medical history, including details of current medications, which identifies both the possible effects of oral disease on medical well-being, and the medical conditions and medications that affect oral health and/or dental treatment	Year 4
1.3 have knowledge of the general evaluation of a patient's appearance, including the identification of abnormalities in their physical, emotional or mental status	Year 4
1.4 be competent at undertaking an appropriate systematic extra-oral clinical examination of the head and neck, including TMJs, salivary glands, muscles and lymph nodes, and recognising disease states and abnormalities	Year 4
1.5 be competent at undertaking an appropriate systematic intra-oral clinical examination including examining the oral soft and hard tissues and diagnosing the various diseases and abnormalities of the teeth and periodontal tissues	Year 4
1.6 be competent at planning, in an integrated fashion, preventative, non-operative and operative care for patients with periodontal diseases, dental caries, tooth wear and failing restorations	Year 4
1.7 be competent at deciding whether severely broken down teeth are restorable and how missing teeth should be replaced, choosing between the alternatives of no replacements, bridges, dentures or implants	Year 4
1.8 be competent at designing effective indirect restorations and complete and partial dentures	Year 4
1.9 be competent at carrying out an orthodontic assessment including an indication of treatment need; be familiar with contemporary treatment techniques in orthodontics	Year 4
1.10 be familiar with the principles of treatment of dento-facial anomalies including the common orthodontic/maxillofacial procedures involved	Year5
1.11 have knowledge of functional occlusion in health and disease and management of the disordered occlusion	Year4
1.12 be competent at managing the oral health of children and adolescents and plan treatment for them in a manner that incorporates consideration for their expected growth and development,	Year 4

involving parents or guardians as required	
1.13 have knowledge of the management of patients with facial pain, including temporomandibular disorders, involving a recognition of when it is appropriate to refer for specialist help and advice	Year 4
1.14 have knowledge of management of acute infection	Year 4
1.15 be competent at recognising and managing (at a primary care level) disorders of the oral mucosa, including malignant and potentially malignant lesions	Year 4
1.16 be competent at recognising the oro-facial manifestations of systemic disease and be familiar with the management of patients who present in this way	Year 4
1.17 be familiar with the principles of assessment and management of maxillofacial trauma	Year 4
1.18 be familiar with signs of physical, emotional and substance abuse and seek advice from appropriate authorities	Year 4
1.19 be competent at obtaining and recording a comprehensive history, completing an extra and intra-oral examination including the use of sensibility tests and radiographs where appropriate, and deciding what emergency care and follow-up treatment is required in a child who has suffered dento-alveolar or mucosal trauma	Year 4

### **Practical Procedures**

2.1 be competent at oral hygiene instruction, dietary analysis, topical fluoride therapy and fissure sealing	Year 4
2.2 be competent at supragingival and subgingival scaling and root debridement, using both powered and manual instrumentation and in stain removal and prophylaxis	Year 4
2.3 be competent at completing a range of procedures in restorative dentistry, including preventive resin restorations, amalgam and tooth-coloured direct restorations, indirect restorations, anterior and posterior crowns and post crowns, so as to restore teeth to form, function and appearance, considering the need to preserve the health of the pulp and avoid the unnecessary loss of tooth tissues	Year 5
2.4 be competent at the endodontic management of healthy, diseased or injured pulp and periradicular tissues in the primary and permanent dentitions	Year 5
2.5 be competent at the procedures necessary to provide biocompatible, functional and aesthetic dental prostheses (fixed and removable) in sympathy with patient requirements and needs	Year 5
2.6 have knowledge of the design and choice of materials used in the production of partial and complete dentures, along with knowledge of laboratory procedures. Have knowledge of how to make chairside adjustments to these restorations	Year 4
2.7 be competent at managing appropriately all forms of orthodontic emergency including referral when necessary	Year 4
2.8 have knowledge of preformed stainless steel crown and pulp therapy in primary molar teeth	Year 4
2.9 have knowledge of the management of trauma in both dentitions	Year 4
2.10 have the knowledge to design, insert and adjust space maintainers and active removable appliances to move a single tooth or correct a crossbite	Year 3
2.11 be competent at undertaking the extraction of teeth and minor soft tissue surgery	Year 5
2.12 have knowledge of basic dento-alveolar surgical procedures, including the management of intra- and post-operative complications and recognise when it is appropriate to refer for specialist help and advice	Year 4
2.13 be competent at taking and processing the various radiographic views used in general dental practice	Year 4
2.14 be competent at infiltration and block local anaesthesia in the oral cavity, recognising and managing potential complications relating to its use	Year 3
2.15 be competent at infection control procedures within a dental surgery environment. Have an understanding of infection control policies	Year 5
2.16 have knowledge of inhalational and intravenous conscious sedation techniques in clinical practice	Year 4
2.17 be competent at recognising medical emergencies, carrying out resuscitation techniques and immediate treatment of cardiac arrest, anaphylactic reaction, upper respiratory obstruction, collapse, vasovagal attack, haemorrhage, inhalation or ingestion of foreign bodies and diabetic coma	Year 4

2.18 be competent at the appropriate prescription of medicines, monitor their effectiveness and safety; and be aware of drug interactions, adverse effects and how to initiate action to manage and report such events	Year4
<b>Patient Investigation</b>	
3.1 have knowledge of appropriate special investigations, including laboratory investigations, and the interpretation and explanation of their results.	Year4
3.2 be familiar with the principles of medical ionizing radiation; and the principles that underlie dental radiographic techniques; and the statutory regulations	Year3
3.3 be competent at the interpretation of intra-oral and dental panoramic radiographs and be able to write an accurate radiographic report	Year4
<b>Patient Management</b>	
4.1 be competent at developing, presenting and discussing prioritised individual treatment options for patients of all ages, incorporating consideration of patient expectations and goals for oral care	Year4
4.2 be competent at obtaining valid consent, where necessary through the intermediate consent of a parent, guardian or carer	Year4
4.3 have knowledge of the theory, application and evaluation of psychological factors in the delivery of dental care	Year3
4.4 have knowledge of managing patients with Special Care needs	Year4
4.5 be competent at the evaluation of patients for fitness to undergo routine dental care, modification of treatment plans to take account of general medical status, and recognition of those patients who are beyond the scope of their management	Year4
4.6 be competent at the appropriate referral of patients for specialist advice or treatment, including referral for general anaesthesia	Year5
4.7 be competent at the prescription, integration and management of care provided by the dental team	Year4
4.8 have knowledge of the assessment of patients for conscious sedation and general anaesthesia	Year5
4.9 be competent at informing patients or guardians of the indications, contraindications, limitations, risks and benefits of conscious sedation and general anaesthesia	Year5
4.10 have knowledge of the application of the principles of dental anxiety management (behavioural and pharmacological) to the treatment of the anxious dental patient, both child and adult	Year5
4.11 have knowledge of dental problems that may manifest themselves in elderly patients and of the principles involving the management of such problems	Year4
4.12 be familiar with the main medical disorders and aspects of general medicine and surgery that may impinge on dental treatment	Year4
<b>Health Promotion and Disease Prevention</b>	
5.1 have knowledge of the principles and practice of health promotion and how these are applied at the individual, community and population level	Year2
5.2 have knowledge of the organisation and provision of healthcare in the community and in hospitals, in the UK especially	Year3
5.3 be familiar with the prevalence and trends of oral disease in the UK and international adult and child populations	Year4
5.4 be familiar with the complex interactions between oral health, nutrition and general health; and their impact on disease and dental care	Year4
5.5 have knowledge of the assessment of patient risk for dental caries, tooth wear, periodontal disease and oral cancer and the provision of appropriate counselling and health education for the patient, in order to prevent disease	Year5
5.6 have knowledge of the need to take responsibility for establishing personal networks with local primary healthcare professionals and other relevant organisations	Year3

5.7 have knowledge of the theories of motivation and behaviour, and how they relate to adherence, behaviour change and sustainability	Year3
5.8 have knowledge of the principles of a public health approach to oral health and oral healthcare	Year3
5.9 have knowledge of the principles and approaches to tackling health inequalities	Year3
5.10 have knowledge of quality improvement and equity in health policy and healthcare	Year3
5.11 be familiar with the principles of healthcare need and demand; and the principles of planning healthcare at a community level	Year4
5.12 be familiar with the implications of the wider health economy and external influences on managing the clinical and working environment	Year4
5.13 have knowledge of the principles of epidemiology and critically evaluate their application to patient management	Year3
<b>Communication</b>	
6.1 be competent at communication with patients, their representatives and the public	Year 3
6.2 be competent at communication with other members of the dental team and other healthcare professionals verbally and in writing	Year 3
<b>Data and Information Handling Skills</b>	
7.1 be competent at the use of information technology as a means of communication, for data collection and analysis and for self-directed learning.	Year 5
7.2 be competent at maintaining full and accurate clinical records	Year4
<b>Understanding of Basic and Clinical Sciences and Underlying Principles</b>	
8.1 have knowledge of the structure and function of the molecules, cells, tissues, organs and systems of the human body relevant to the practice of dentistry	Year3
8.2 have knowledge of the mechanisms of responses to insults including trauma and disease	Year1
8.3 have knowledge of disease processes such as infection, inflammation, disorders of the immune system, degeneration, neoplasia, metabolic disturbances and genetic disorders	Year 4
8.4 have knowledge of diseases and disorders of the oral cavity and associated structures, their causes and sequelae, so as to inform diagnosis, prevention and management	Year 4
8.5 have knowledge of oral biology, to include detailed knowledge of the form and function of teeth and associated structures, in health and disease	Year2
8.6 have knowledge of the science that underpins the use of dental biomaterials, sufficient to allow the selection and use of appropriate materials in clinical practice, including an understanding of their limitations and familiarity with those aspects of biomaterial safety that relate to dentistry	Year4
8.7 have knowledge of the hazards of ionizing radiation and regulations relating to them, including radiation protection and dose reduction	Year3
8.8 be familiar with the underlying disease processes and dental relevance of common medical disorders affecting the body	Year3
8.9 have knowledge of the changes that occur with normal development, growth and ageing and apply their knowledge in the management of the oral environment	Year4
8.10 be competent at managing a Local Decontamination Unit. Obtain the "licence" to manage an LDU	Year5
<b>Appropriate Attitudes, Ethical Understanding and Legal Responsibilities</b>	
9.1 have knowledge of the <b>legal</b> and ethical responsibilities involved in the provision of care to individual patients, including those with Special Care needs, and to members of diverse and vulnerable populations	Year4
9.2 have knowledge of health and safety legislation and the maintenance of a safe working environment, including the legal basis of radiographic practice	Year4
9.3 have knowledge of patients' rights, particularly with regard to confidentiality and valid consent, and of patients' obligations. See 4.2	Year1
9.4 have knowledge of the law as it applies to dental care and practice	Year4

9.5 be familiar with audit, peer review and clinical governance, including the need to evaluate treatment outcomes and undertake remedial action where appropriate	Year4
9.6 be familiar with the importance of his or her own health and its impact on the ability to practise as a dentist	Year1
9.7 be familiar with the need to recognise and take appropriate action to help incompetent, impaired or unethical colleagues and their patients	Year5
9.8 have knowledge of quality and safety in dental practice, including organisational improvement and innovation	Year5
9.9 be competent at communicating with and managing patients when things go wrong, including knowing how and where to report any patient safety issues which arise	Year5
9.10 be competent at recognising and demonstrating clear and effective procedures for handling patient complaints	Year5
9.11 be familiar with the financial aspects of managing a dental practice	Year5
<b>Appropriate Decision Making, Clinical Reasoning and Judgement</b>	
10.1 be competent at explaining, evaluating and applying the principles of an evidence-based approach to learning, clinical and professional practice in decision making	Year4
10.2 have knowledge of the importance of a comprehensive approach to oral care	Year4
10.3 be competent at managing circumstances where the patient's wishes are considered by the dental team not to be in his/her best interests	Year5
10.4 have knowledge of, evaluate and respect social and cultural influences on patients' responses to dental care	Year2
10.5 have knowledge of the concept of barriers and facilitators to implementing clinical guidelines in practice	Year4
10.6 have knowledge of critically appraising approaches to dental research and integrating with patient care. See also 10.1	Year3
<b>Professional Development</b>	
11.1 have knowledge of, and display the attitudes necessary for, professional practice and conduct	Year4
11.2 Act appropriately in the use of all media including digital and social platforms	Year1
<b>Personal Development</b>	
12.1 demonstrate approaches to teaching and learning that are based on curiosity and exploration of knowledge rather than its passive acquisition	Year5
12.2 demonstrate a desire for intellectual rigour, an awareness of personal limitations, an ability to provide and receive constructive criticism and a willingness to seek help as necessary	Year5
12.3 be able to manage learning in the context of establishing a philosophy of continuing professional education and development such that professional competence is maintained over a practising lifetime. See also 11.1e	Year5
12.4 be familiar with the causes of occupational stress and its management	Year4
12.5 be able to effectively manage own time and resources	Year4

## 10. Typical Learning and Teaching Approaches:

Lectures  
Tutorials  
Seminars  
Clinical Techniques (simulated)  
Clinical Teaching

Self-directed learning and reflection

## 11. Typical Assessment Methods:

Written examination  
Assignments  
Competence assessment  
Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)  
Clinical/oral examination  
Pre-clinical skills assessment

## 12. Programme Structure and Features:

The degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery is gained via an integrated programme of study, extending over five years, which:

- Involves the maximum possible integration of biomedical science teaching with clinical teaching.
- Provides for a student-centred approach to learning.
- Provides for outreach teaching within primary care settings.
- Has transferable skills of an appropriate level embedded within it.
- Provides for shared learning experiences with trainee Professionals Complementary to Dentistry, thus fostering the spirit of team working.

The vertical themes that run through the five years of the programme are:

- Biological and Medical Sciences
- Patient Management and Health Promotion
- Clinical Dentistry

Each year of the programme corresponds to an integrated course (BDS 1-5), culminating in a professional examination. The courses are compulsory. Clinical teaching begins in BDS 1 and throughout the course the aim is to teach the scientific basis of the practice of Dentistry in a clinical context. As the programme progresses students develop increasing expertise based on clinical experience and a reflective approach to practice. It is anticipated that most students will have attained the majority of the learning outcomes by the end of year four and that the final year will, essentially, be one of consolidation and optional modules.

***The opportunity is provided for students to take a relevant Honours degree in Life Sciences or Clinical Medicine. Intercalated science degrees are taken for one year, normally after the fourth BDS year. Students return to the BDS course on completion of the degree.***

### ***Progress requirements:***

***A candidate may not proceed to any stage of the curriculum until he or she has successfully completed, or has been granted exemption from, the preceding course. The criteria for successful completion of a course shall normally include satisfactory attendance and compliance with course instructions.***

### ***Early exit points:***

***A candidate who has completed the first three years of the course and who, for good reason, is unable to complete the course, may be eligible for the award of the exit degree Degree of Bachelor of Medical Science (BMedSci). A candidate who has completed the first two years of the course and who, for good reason, is unable to complete the course, may be eligible for the award of the exit award of Diploma of Higher Education (Medical Sciences); a candidate who has completed the first year of the course and who, for good reason, is unable to complete the course, may be eligible for the award of the exit award of Certificate of Higher Education (BMedSci).***

**13. Programme Accredited By:**

General Dental Council

**14. Location(s):**

Glasgow

**15. College:**

College of Medical Veterinary and Life Sciences

**16. Lead School/Institute:**

Medicine Dentistry and Nursing [REG20200000]

**17. Is this programme collaborative with another institution:**

No

**18. Awarding Institution(s):**

University of Glasgow

**19. Teaching Institution(s):**

**20. Language of Instruction:**

English

**21. Language of Assessment:**

English

**22. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (see [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education](#)) and Other External or Internal Reference Points:**

General Dental Council's "Preparing for Practice – Dental Team Learning Outcomes for Registration (2015 revised edition)". [https://www.gdc-uk.org/Aboutus/education/Documents/Preparing%20for%20Practice%20\(revised%202015\).pdf](https://www.gdc-uk.org/Aboutus/education/Documents/Preparing%20for%20Practice%20(revised%202015).pdf)

Dentistry benchmarking statements (2002) Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-Dentistry.pdf>

**23. Additional Relevant Information (if applicable):**

Support for students is provided by the Postgraduate/Undergraduate Adviser(s) of Studies supported by University resources such LEADS ([www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/leads/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/leads/)), Counselling & Psychological Services ([www.gla.ac.uk/services/counselling/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/counselling/)), the Disability Service ([www.gla.ac.uk/services/studentdisability/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/studentdisability/)) and the Careers Service ([www.gla.ac.uk/services/careers/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/careers/)).



**Portfolio:** Students use a portfolio for the length of the BDS course in order to demonstrate their progress from novice to competent dentist at graduation. The primary aims of the portfolio are to help students develop the habit of reflection, to help them monitor their progress and achievements and to provide evidence that they are meeting specific learning targets.

**Student support systems:** Each student is assigned to a designated mentor for the duration of the BDS course. Students meet their mentor both in a group consisting of four or five mentees in a discussion of the formal reflections students have made on aspects of their dental training; and on an individual basis.

A number of academic staff who teach Dental Students act as advisers and give assistance with academic or personal problems in strict confidence. The Dental School has a Student Support Committee that meets on a regular basis. Its remit is to identify individual students in need of additional support and to ensure that provision is made for this.

**Careers advice:** In Final Year, students are given information packs from the main vocational training schemes around the country, as well as information about junior hospital posts. Copies of journals that carry job advertisements are held in the James Ireland Memorial Library in the Dental School. A large amount of recruitment advice, including CV writing and interview skills training is provided during the course of the year with the help of the University Careers Service, RCPS (Glasgow) and external dental agencies including the British Dental Association and Defence Unions. A number of information sessions are provided at timely intervals during the year to inform students of their vocational training options in Scottish and National Schemes and enhance their Graduate Attributes and recruitment potential in the competitive market economy.

**Research activities:** Research in the Dental School is divided into two themes: Infection and Immunity, and Community Oral Health. Students have the opportunity of becoming involved in research during their elective study in fourth year. During vacations, there are opportunities for students to work on externally-funded projects. For those students who choose to undertake an intercalated degree, a small research project, culminating in a dissertation, is a requirement.

Support for students is provided by the Postgraduate/Undergraduate Adviser(s) of Studies supported by University resources such as the Effective Learning Adviser located in the Student Learning Service (<http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/tls/sls/>), the Counselling and Psychological Service (<http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/counselling/support/counsellingsupport/>), the Student Disability Service (<http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/studentdisability/>) and the Careers Service (<http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/careers/>).

**24. Online Learning:**

No

**25. Date of approval:**