



APPENDIX K – MRCPH/DCH CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EXAMINATION CANDIDATES

MRCPPH/DCH Code of Conduct for Examination Candidates

Candidates for MRCPPH and DCH examinations are required to behave in a professional manner throughout their dealings with the RCPCH Examinations Team. This includes conduct during the examination, and in all interaction with examiners, invigilators and staff before, during and after the examination.

This policy has been developed to provide a framework against which allegations of misconduct related to behaviour will be judged. In the event of any allegation of misconduct RCPCH will undertake an investigation governed by the following principles:

Candidates should note that by virtue of applying to sit an examination they are deemed to have understood and agreed to respect and abide by all relevant regulations, including this Code of Conduct.

General standard of behaviour

The RCPCH Examinations Team acts to maintain the safety and security of all individuals associated with its examinations.

Candidates are expected to behave in a professional manner, befitting a member of one of the Royal Colleges, in all activities associated with the examination. Adherence to the principles and values within General Medical Council (GMC)'s Good Medical Practice² is expected at all times.

The RCPCH Examinations Team expects all candidates to treat everyone they encounter during their examination experience with dignity and respect.

This code applies equally to behaviour of candidates and applicants when:

- dealing directly with personnel involved in the examinations (in person, on the telephone, in correspondence) and
- publishing or posting comments on websites and social media.

Interacting with the RCPCH Examinations Team

Candidates are expected to act with respect for those running the examination at all times. MRCPPH and DCH examiners, invigilators and staff have the right to undertake their role without fear of abuse or harassment. Physical or verbal abuse, or the threat of such abuse, will be regarded as a form of misconduct, and investigated accordingly.

Candidates should not attempt to harass or bully RCPCH officers or staff.

Harassment includes any unwanted conduct affecting the dignity of RCPCH officers or staff

Bullying may include offensive, intimidating, malicious or insulting behaviour intended to undermine, humiliate, denigrate or injure the recipient

Failure to comply with written or verbal instructions of RCPCH and its staff, including the examination regulations, may also be considered as misconduct.

Examples of inappropriate behaviour include, but are not confined to: shouting, threats of harm (either to self or staff), inappropriate written communications, email and telephone conversations, and physical contact.

Interacting with other candidates

RCPCH Examinations Team strive to ensure that the examination experience is as calm and pleasant as possible for everyone.

Candidates are expected to act with respect for fellow candidates.

