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# WIDENING ACCESS & PARTICIPATION TEAM

## Mini Medics Boxed



**University of  
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# Introducing Mini Medics Boxed



@WestEndSchools

# Context

- In 2018, the University of Sunderland was among only five universities to open a School of Medicine in a bid to address the regional imbalance of medical education places across England.
- The School aims to widen access to ensure the profession reflects the needs of the communities it serves, as well as addressing the chronic shortage of GPs in the North East.
- In recent years only 4% of undergraduate medical students at universities across the country came from the North East. The region also has the highest number of schools never to have sent any students to study medicine.
- The University committed to recruiting students from a widening participation background. A target of 15% WP recruitment was set, with the School ultimately attracting 25% in its first cohort in 2019/20.

# Pre-16 outreach to support our School of Medicine

- Designed a suite of interactive outreach activities, accessible to the very youngest pupils in early years education right through to Year 11.
- Hands-on and inspirational, linked to the National Curriculum, introducing the role of doctors and the equipment they use in their day-to-day job.
- The team purchased medical equipment including reflex hammers, stethoscopes, slings, bandages, anatomical models, fake tongues and even fake eyeballs!



# The beginnings of Mini Medics Boxed

- March 2020; no explanation required
- Development of online school outreach activities.
- Outreach resources delivered to schools
- £2,000 Amazon funding bid in October 2020
- Uni Connect & institutional funding

# Online working challenges

- Sourcing medical supplies; pandemic inflated costs vs maintaining the integrity of the resources box
- Delivery and storage of purchased items whilst working remotely
- Development of accompanying resources; workbooks and answer booklets

# NERUPI Framework

- CHOOSE
  - Identify link between Higher Education and careers
- UNDERSTAND
  - a) Broaden their understanding through positive learning experiences
  - b) Access and experience appropriate attainment-raising interventions



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# Box building day

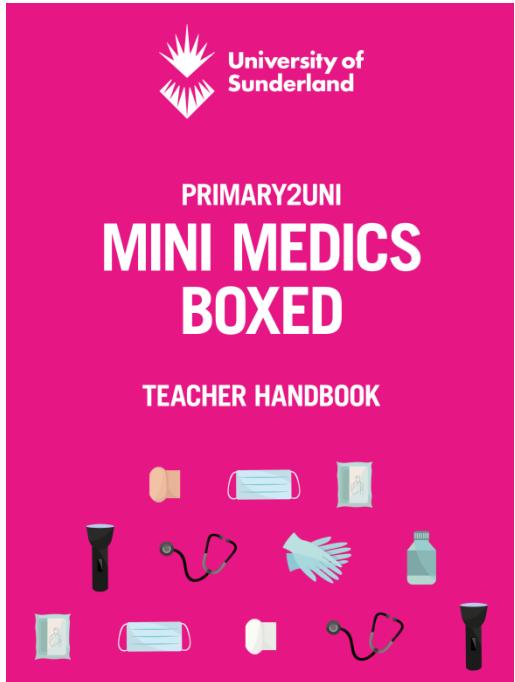


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# The finished result



# Digital Resources



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**PRIMARY2UNI**

**MINI MEDICS BOXED**

**TEACHER HANDBOOK**



## MINI MEDICS BOXED: TEACHER HANDBOOK

### Overview

This handbook has been designed to be used alongside the Mini Medics Boxed resources and covers:

- Information on the University of Sunderland's School of Medicine
- Mini Medic Boxed session guidance
- Answers to the questions set in the Activity Workbook

### The University of Sunderland's School of Medicine

What is the University of Sunderland's School of Medicine?

The University of Sunderland's School of Medicine is part of the Government's plan to make Sunderland a key player in its biggest ever increase of the medical workforce. The Government has set into motion a plan to create five new medical schools to help us deal with the challenges of a continuously growing population; a population where in 10 years' time, we will have around one million more over 75 year olds. The new School of Medicine will also prove a huge boost to our region, both in terms of the economy and healthcare treatments, with thousands of NHS patients set to benefit.

The Government's medical schools are being set up in areas of the country where it can be difficult to recruit and attract new doctors. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) aims to increase medical applicants from all types of backgrounds as part of their bid to tackle social injustices. There is evidence that doctors tend to remain in the areas they trained in.

The University of Sunderland is a leading university in terms of widening access and participation. The University has been identified as a university which will work closely with the local community to help talented students from groups under-represented in higher education become doctors. The aim of widening access to the field of medicine, is to ultimately ensure that medicine and related professions reflect the population they serve.

What does the University of Sunderland's School of Medicine offer its students?

Medical students learn in the University of Sunderland's existing Health Sciences teaching and learning space, which includes outstanding facilities, real-life settings and the latest simulation equipment.

Our Science Complex offers one of the best student experiences for those studying the sciences, including industry-standard research and teaching laboratories and testing equipment in pharmaceutical, biomedical, environmental and sports sciences. The non-clinical components of the course are based here.



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**DESTINATION UNI**

**PATIENT ASSESSMENT CENTRE BOXED**

**ACTIVITY WORKBOOK**



## PATIENT ASSESSMENT SCENARIO

### Task:

Now we are going to put your knowledge to the test!

### Case 1:

You are a doctor in an A&E department and your next patient is a 10-year-old boy. He says he was playing football and has fallen over onto his shoulder and it is really hurting. He tries to move it but it's obviously really painful. The shoulder joint looks deformed. Using the information you have learned in this booklet, what could the possible diagnosis be for the boy's injury and how could you treat it quickly using the equipment in your Patient Assessment Centre box?

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### Case 2:

You're a doctor working in an A&E department and your next patient is a 15-year-old girl who has fainted and has cut her leg due to her fall. She says she faints regularly, but she feels okay now. Her leg is painful and is bleeding. How could you assess and treat this patient's injuries using the equipment in your Patient Assessment Centre box?

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# Targeting pupils and schools

- Pupils; Year 6 and Year 9 – key transition year groups
- Schools targeting methodology
- Amazon criteria
- Uni Connect schools
- POLAR4: Quintile 1 & 2
- Reaching out to schools without any previous working relationships

# Delivering Mini Medics Boxed

- Delivery issues
- First recipients - 8 Newcastle West School for STEM Week in early June 2021
- Well-received
- Social media coverage
- Data collection is ongoing

# Reach and Follow up

- 22 Mini Medics Boxed resources boxes (primary)
- 22 Patient Assessment Centre Boxed resources boxes (secondary)
- Geographic spread; Darlington, Durham, Gateshead, Washington, Sunderland, South Tyneside
- 1,449 beneficiary numbers; 789 primary, 660 secondary



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# Award nomination

- Mini Medics was shortlisted at the 2021 NEON Awards for the **NEON Widening Access Initiative (Outreach) Award** and received a commendation
- The awards were presented online on Thursday 10 June 2021



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# Follow up transition points

- Academic year 2021/22 schools outreach programme
- Mini Medics Boxed recipients will be invited onto campus to experience the mock clinical environment, tour the School of Medicine and have the opportunity to meet our medicine students.
- Pharmacy Boxed;100 Years of Pharmacy at the University of Sunderland

# Thank you for listening



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