NHS England

Paediatric Surgery ST3

National Recruitment 2027 – Portfolio Updates for Trainees

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: This document provides a summary of the major approved changes to the Paediatric Surgery ST3 Self-Assessment form ahead of the 2027 round of recruitment. There will still be some additional minor amendments in addition to these which will be available within the final version of the 2027 Paediatric Surgery Self-Assessment form when published prior to the vacancy being advertised in November.

Evidence & Documentation – Key Requirements

- All logbook evidence must be **signed, dated by supervisor and include a valid registration number** on every page — not just the front sheet
- UK training posts should be evidenced from **ISCP** where possible, as this is deanery-validated
- Non-UK evidence must be **signed and dated by supervisor with their valid registration number**
- Certificates for APLS/ PALS/ EPLS must be **current and valid** - out-of-date evidence will not be accepted
- If you cannot download or upload evidence from Oriel, **email Deanery** immediately - contact details will be in the applicant handbook
- Screenshots from Oriel are acceptable where a PDF cannot be generated – must be **signed, dated by supervisor and include a valid registration number**
- The applicant handbook will be updated with **worked examples and screenshots** to guide you through the upload process

Training Posts (Questions 1–4)

- Evidence of completion should be from **ISCP** wherever possible
- For non-UK posts, a signed, dated letter from a registered clinician confirming completion is required — **your specialty must be clearly stated**
- If your specialty cannot be determined from your evidence, marks **will not** be awarded — you will not be given the benefit of the doubt
- Paediatric surgery scoring has been updated
- General Surgery scoring has been updated and the upper cap for general surgery has been extended
- For neonatal posts, **6 months is encouraged** to demonstrate meaningful engagement (3 months remains the minimum) with a change to the maximum score

Life Support Course (Question 5)

- Your life support course (e.g. APLS, EPLS, EPALS) must be **in person** - online-only courses are **not acceptable**
- Your certificate must be **current and in date** - check your revalidation date before applying
- A consultant letter stating they have witnessed you manage unwell patients **will not count.** You need a statement that you have received local training and been assessed.

Surgical Logbook – Scrotal Explorations (Question 7 – NEW)

- A **new question on scrotal explorations** is being introduced — start logging these cases now
- Operations recorded as **STS (supervised) and above** are acceptable
- Every logbook page must be **signed and validated**
- This is a key independent on-call skill — seek out opportunities to perform these cases during your training

Publications (Question 8)

- **No time limit** on publications — work from medical school onwards can be included
- Low-quality or predatory journals remain excluded
- Ensure your publication is in a legitimate peer-reviewed journal

Presentations (Question 9)

- Only **national or international oral presentations** are accepted — regional, local, and poster presentations do not count
- Acceptable evidence includes:
- A **certificate of presentation** from the conference
- Where no certificate is issued (e.g. BAPS), a **signed abstract or meeting programme** countersigned by a supervisor with their valid registration number confirming you presented
- A PowerPoint or slide deck alone **will not** be accepted as evidence

Teaching (Question 11)

- Evidence of regular teaching must be **within the last 2 years** - historic teaching alone will not be accepted
- Examples of regular formal teaching (Score 1) include: medical student teaching, in-hospital teaching, anatomy demonstrating
- Examples of faculty on a recognised course (Score 2) include: APLS, Basic Surgical Skills, GIC
- A one-off teaching session is unlikely to meet the threshold for "regularly engaged"

UPDATE: September 2026

UK Higher Research – Question removed.

General Advice

- **Read the applicant handbook and supporting guidance for the 2027 recruitment carefully** — many issues this year arose from candidates following previous years' guidance which had changed
- Do not assume that evidence accepted in a previous year will automatically be accepted again — requirements are being tightened and clarified
- Further detail and worked examples will be available on the National Paediatric Surgery ST3 Webpage and on the TRIPS website shortly
- If you experience any technical difficulties whilst uploading your evidence to Qpercom, please contact the National Paediatric Surgery Recruitment Team before the deadline directly via - **england.paediatricsurgeryrec.yh@nhs.net**