**BSc (Hons) Dental Hygiene and Therapy**

**Interview instructions for applicants**

**These guidelines are for applicants who, as part of the application process for BSc (Hons) Dental Hygiene and Therapy, have been invited to attend an interview day at the University of Suffolk.**

**Interview Day Schedule**

Please review your interview invitation to determine whether you have been invited to attend the morning or afternoon interview session. Please report to the **Waterfront Building** Reception for registration on the day. Your interview will be conducted face-to-face at the University.

**Morning interviews**  
Please arrive so that we can start promptly at 9am, we anticipate those attending the morning session will finish all interview activities by 1pm.

**Afternoon interviews**   
Please arrive so that we can start promptly at 1pm, we anticipate those attending the afternoon session will finish all interview activities by 5:30pm.

Your interview will consist of a 20-minute individual interview with an academic and a dental clinician. The interview will focus on your application, background and skills relative to the course. At the end of this interview, you will have plenty of time to ask any questions you have about the course, or the university.

Applicants will also be asked to carry out a task during interview to demonstrate manual dexterity, the interviewer will provide the equipment required to complete the task. An example of a manual dexterity task is pipetting a fixed volume of water from a larger flask to a small flask.

You will be scored for your individual interview. On the day of your interview, you will also undertake a lab tour which will be led by a student ambassador.

**Important Information**

Applicants are strongly advised to gain experience of observing or working with dental hygienists/therapists and we would recommend you visit a clinical setting prior to the interview.

If you have been able to gain some dental or healthcare related work experience, we do not require documentary evidence but as you can see from the list above, we want to be assured that you have a good understanding of the role of the qualified dental hygienist and therapist, and the wide scope within which we work.

If at this time you are unable to gain this type of work experience, then we would recommend you thoroughly research the professions and what working within a healthcare career would involve.

We would also expect you to be able to draw upon your wider experience relevant to this programme and be able to discuss how you can work with and care for other people.

You may find the following websites useful for your research:

[Dental hygienist | Health Careers](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/roles-dental-team/dental-hygienist)

[Dental therapist | Health Careers](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/roles-dental-team/dental-therapist)

[Dental hygienist job profile | Prospects.ac.uk](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/dental-hygienist)

[Dental therapist job profile | Prospects.ac.uk](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/dental-therapist)

[Dental therapy and dental hygiene (gdc-uk.org)](https://www.gdc-uk.org/education-cpd/dental-education/quality-assurance/approved-providers/dental-therapy-and-dental-hygiene)

**Outcomes from the interview process could be**

Offer: Conditional/unconditional | Alternative Course Offer | Reserve List | Reject

**What does it mean if I’m on a reserve list?**

If you have been offered a place on the 'reserve list', you will initially see a 'Reject' decision in your UCAS Hub and you will receive an email from the university offering you a place on the reserve list. If you would like to be on the reserve list, you will need to respond to that email to let us know. We may call candidates from the reserve list to offer a place on to the course any time from August until two weeks after the start of the course. Your place on the list will be determined by the score you achieved at the interview. The reserve list enables us to meet our commission numbers when candidates who accept an offer subsequently chose to withdraw or do not meet the conditions of their offer and their offer is withdrawn, so another space becomes available. Please note that we are unable to inform candidates where they are on the reserve list.

**If I am on the reserve list, will I automatically get a place the following year?**

Unfortunately, no. Candidates accepting a place on the reserve list will need to reapply to be considered for a place the following year if they are not offered a place from the reserve list.

Feedback to those unsuccessful candidates is available on request via the Admissions office only. Please email [admissions@uos.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@uos.ac.uk) and your request will be forwarded to the Admissions Tutor for reply.

**Suggested Resources**   
In addition to the NHS constitution, applicants may wish to refer to current articles and reports in publications concerned with dental hygiene and therapy, and the care of the patient in a healthcare environment.

Some useful websites are:

[General Dental Council Scope of Practice.PDF](https://www.gdc-uk.org/docs/default-source/scope-of-practice/scope-of-practice.pdf)

[NHS Higher Egland 'Advancing Dental Care Review: Final Report'](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/advancing-dental-care)

The NHS Constitution for England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

These links are suggested as a general guide only and are not specifically endorsed or published by the University of Suffolk; this is also not an exhaustive list, and you should ensure that you prepare for your interview fully through wider reading.

We hope that you will find this information useful. However, if you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the Student Centre (01473 338833 or studentlife@uos.ac.uk), where the staff will be happy to assist you.

Finally, we look forward to speaking with you soon and wish you well in interview. Please give yourself the best chance of success, by ensuring that you are well prepared.

Best wishes on behalf of the Course and Admission teams.

**Stacianne Tennant**

**Admissions Tutor**