

## March - April 2022

The Primary Care Zone ([primaryem22.imamedic.uk](http://primaryem22.imamedic.uk)) ran from 7 March to 29 April and was funded by the **Nottinghamshire Alliance Training Hub** and **Midlands RCGP**.

The Zone featured **48 primary healthcare professionals**, split across 6 teams, working across the Midlands. They connected with **680 students from local schools**. 607 students (89%) *actively* participated by writing Chat lines, asking follow-up questions and voting.

### Key activity figures

Students logged in	680
Students active	89%
Schools	14
Healthcare workers	48
Live Chats requested	39
Live Chats taken place	28
Lines of live Chat	12,410
Average lines per live Chat	443
Questions asked	121
Questions approved	89
Answers given	236
Votes cast	432
Page views	15,763
Page visits	2,328

### Who took part?

680 students from 14 schools across the Midlands logged into the Zone and connected with 6 healthcare worker teams.

Impressively, 78% of active students were from priority schools: 61% from underserved schools and 74% from widening participation schools.

A total of 432 votes were cast by students. The winning team with the most students votes was **Midland RCGP**, a group of elected GPs representing views of GPs across the Midlands.

### Activity

**39 live Chats were booked.** 28 took place.

Out of the remaining 11 Chats booked, 5 were cancelled and in 6 the school did not attend and did not give notice. All schools were chased and invited to rebook. The number of cancelled and unattended Chats was likely caused by doubling numbers of COVID-19 cases across the Midlands in March. This resulted in staff shortages and reduced the activity in the Zone..

There was one live Chat where teachers asked questions on behalf of their students. It is also common for students to share login details or computers during live Chats. Therefore, the number of students reached will be higher.

Students asked 121 follow-up questions of which 89 were approved and 25 were duplicates.

## School activity

Students from 14 schools across the Midlands participated in the Zone.

School	Active users	Chats attended	Chat lines (total)	Chat lines (per user)	Questions approved	Votes
Walton Academy, Grantham (WP/U)	123	2	1,008	8	34	96
David Nieper Academy, Alfreton (WP/U)	101	5	721	7	5	81
Firs Primary school, Derby City (WP)	55	3	725	13	3	34
Redhill Academy, Nottingham (WP)	52	2	281	5	3	50
Shirebrook Academy, Mansfield (WP/U)	52	3	493	10	14	21
The Bolsover School, Chesterfield (WP/U)	51	2	780	15	1	46
Bluecoat Wollaton Academy, Nottingham	49	2	790	16	1	27
The West Bridgford School, Nottingham	49	3	515	11	6	16
Summerhill School, Kingswinford (U)	23	1	179	8	0	22
Colton Hills Community School, Wolverhampton (WP/U)	23	1	233	10	3	19
Sir Jonathan North Community College, Leicester	20	1	163	8	18	5
John Port Spencer Academy, Derby	15	1	244	16	1	13
St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy, Stoke-on-Trent	6	1	42	7	0	2
The Wells Academy, Nottingham* (WP)	1	1	21	21	0	0

\* In these chats teachers typed questions on behalf of their students, with the chat displayed on a screen.

We want to increase the participation of under-represented groups. Find out what we mean by under-served (U) and widening participation (WP) schools, and how you can support us in working with more of these: [about.imascientist.org.uk/under-served-and-wp](http://about.imascientist.org.uk/under-served-and-wp)

# Healthcare Worker activity

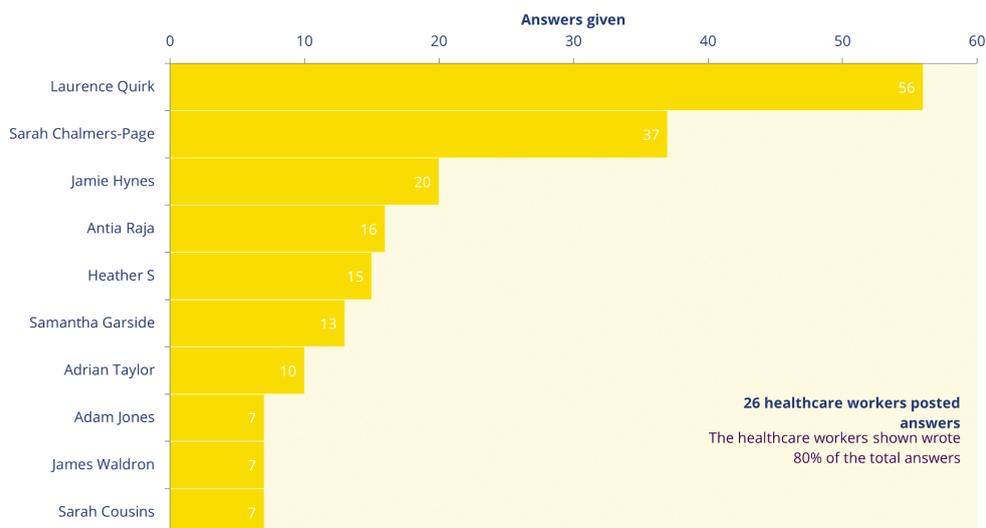
38 out of the 48 healthcare workers completed a profile in the Zone. See who took part: [primaryem22.imamedic.uk/healthcareworkers](http://primaryem22.imamedic.uk/healthcareworkers)

During the Zone the healthcare workers interacted with students by writing 5,521 lines of live Chat, and providing 236 answers to 89 posted questions. On average, 4 healthcare workers attended each live Chat providing students with a diverse range of people with whom to relate.

**10 most active healthcare workers in live Chats**



**10 most active healthcare workers in posting answers**





## Good engagement

Students could learn how healthcare and medications can affect them and society.

**Student 1:** I have pills for my ADHD, how do they work, and why can't others take them?

**Laurence (healthcare worker):** They help calm down your responses and help you pay attention, concentrate and sleep better. For someone without ADHD they'd be too calm, sleep too much!

**Student 1:** @Laurence: Is that the only side effect? Is sleeping medication made similar to ADHD medication?

**Jamie (healthcare worker):** Not quite the same chemicals. The reasons for poor sleep determine the way they make the medicines

**Student 1:** How does being a GP impact society?

**Jamie (healthcare worker):** Cracking question!! We like to think it safeguards the health of populations, but being honest there are other things with greater impact on population health- housing, education, employment, poverty. Medicine contributes 11% of health

**Sarah (healthcare worker):** as GPs we are often the 1st point of contact for all of society, this can range from medical problems, to social ones (for example problems with housing, abusive relationships etc)

**Sarah (healthcare worker):** and yes I agree, very good question

Students learnt about healthcare workers careers and the education and qualifications required for different healthcare roles. Finding out you don't need a degree to work in healthcare can make those career options appear more accessible.

**Student 1:** @Heather do you need a degree for your job?

**Heather (healthcare worker):** there are different ways in, at the lower levels that you can do some vocational qualifications but you do need a degree to become a paramedic

**Student 1:** @Heather: is it a difficult job

**Heather (healthcare worker):** it is a really lovely job, it is hard sometimes as we don't always know what is wrong with a patient, but we can take them to hospital so that someone can assess and treat them

**Student 1:** @Heather: aaah snazzy

**Heather (healthcare worker):** :)

**Student 1:** What qualifications do you need to become a paramedic??

**Laurence (healthcare worker):** Some might do a paramedic technician course first and then do a degree after that. Some might do the degree straight away.

**Student 1:** @Laurence: do most unis provide a paramedic technician course?

**Heather (healthcare worker):** I know there is one at Nottingham Trent. I've met some of the tutors who seem nice

Students connected with healthcare workers over their hobbies and interests outside of work such as video games and chess. This allows students to relate to healthcare workers and build a rapport.

**Student 1:** Do you ever get any free time to play video games or do other hobbies?

**Ankish (healthcare worker):** Yes. Free time is important. Sometimes play video games, board games & i like climbing indoors

**Laurence (healthcare worker):** I love going to the gym, doing yoga, walking my dogs

**James (healthcare worker):** ysss! I love video games. almost done with dark souls3 now onto Elden ring!

**Student 1:** @James: Elden ring is great

**James (healthcare worker):** is it! I hear good things. I decided that I wouldn't start it until I had defeated soul of cinder. I've just done Demon Prince (in the DLC!) - not gonna take on Midir, who has the time!

**Student 1:** @James: It's probably my favourite game this year. The graphics are stunning.

**James (healthcare worker):** I'm looking forward to it already!

**James (healthcare worker):** I also want to play CyberPunk now it's more fixed

**Student 1:** @Ankish if you don't mind me asking what games do you play?

**Ankish (healthcare worker):** I like chess and draughts, but any game really. I like Fifa as well

**Student 2:** I like Chess

**Kate (healthcare worker):** ooh a good game - I'm the family champion!

**Ankish (healthcare worker):** I hear a chess challenge coming up

## Weekly Team winners

Students voted for their favourite healthcare worker team to be named the winner each week.

The Healthcare Workers of the Week were:



**Nottinghamshire Healthcare Workers**, a team of healthcare workers from Beeston to Mansfield



**Nottinghamshire Alliance Training Hub**, designed to meet the educational needs of the multidisciplinary primary care team

## Winning Team

The overall winning team, with the most votes at the end of the Zone was:

- **Midland RCGP**, a group of elected GPs representing the views of GPs in the Midlands

As the winning team, they receive £500 to spend on further public engagement projects.



"GPs love talking and listening, being interested in people and their perspectives, so doing this kind of project sings to our skillset. What really came across was the energy you guys brought to the chats. For us, chatting about the highs, the lows, what we enjoy and how much it matters helped us reconnect with the reasons we chose this incredibly rewarding profession. Your energy gave us energy!"

You can read the team's full statement here:

[primaryem22.imamedic.uk/2022/05/09/a-thank-you-from-your-winning-team-midland-rcgp](http://primaryem22.imamedic.uk/2022/05/09/a-thank-you-from-your-winning-team-midland-rcgp)

## Feedback

Thank you for helping us understand the daily life of being a medic.

**Student**

It's been a wonderful experience talking to bright students. Everything was well organised and explained clearly. Overall it was brilliant, insightful for me reflecting on why I chose my career and fun! Would definitely think about doing it again

**Ruby** (healthcare worker)

I really enjoyed it and felt re-energised and re-inspired about what I do. I was quite surprised by some of the questions as some students were very insightful and asked wonderful questions.

**Sarah** (healthcare worker)

Students absolutely loved the sessions and I received a lot of thanks from them so I would love to pass that on to your team and the volunteers. A series of brilliant workshops - thank you!

**Teacher**

Thank you ever so much for all your time over this week. The students have really enjoyed it a lot and it's so interesting hearing about all you get up to in your work.

**Teacher**

Thanks so much you have inspired me.

**Student**