

Recruitment Task – Policy Officer

Feb 2026

An email to the DSC Chair (maximum 850 words) to propose a coordinated DSC approach to inform the GDC’s new Education Standards.

Context

Imagine you are in March 2025. The General Dental Council (GDC) has recently consulted on revisions to its Standards for Education, the consultation closed on 6 February 2025. The revised standards are expected to be published in Autumn 2025.

Key proposed changes include adding new standards on the following areas,

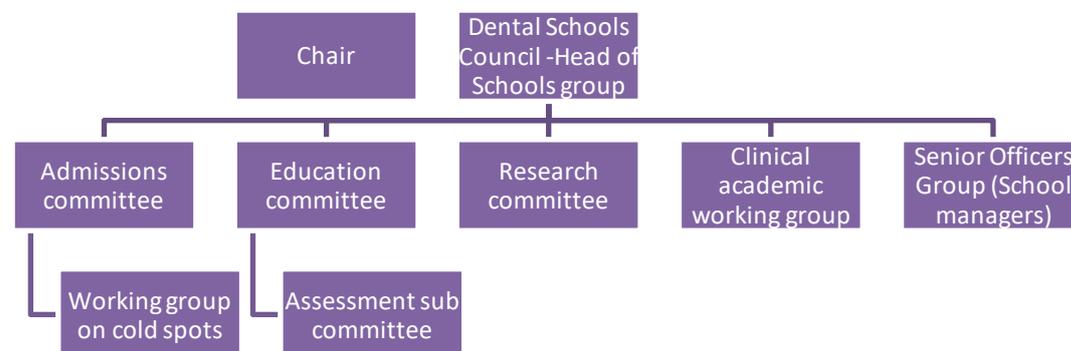
- Student and staff wellbeing
- Fair admissions
- Monitoring of ongoing student behaviours
- Technological advances
- Differential attainment

[You do not need to find out more information than this for the task, but if you are interested, associated resources are available on the GDC website linked [here](#)]

You work for the Dental Schools Council (DSC) – its organisation chart is below.

The DSC Council Chair wants to take a coordinated, constructive approach to engage with and respond to the GDC post-consultation ahead of the standards publication to ensure it meets the needs of dental schools. They have asked you to prepare a plan for this.

DSC organisation chart



Your task

Prepare an email to the DSC Council Chair outlining an engagement plan for DSC on the new GDC Education standards. Include the aspects below under each of the subtitles provided.

- 1) Email subject
- 2) Context and relevance
- 3) Very brief summary of new sections in the new standards*
(You do not need to research beyond the information provided.)
- 4) Opportunities and risks for schools associated with the changes

- 5) Proposed DSC engagement plan with the GDC (ahead of finalisation and publication)
- *Set out a proposed plan for how DSC will engage constructively with the GDC ahead of the standards' finalisation and publication.*
 - *Your plan should involve relevant committees and subcommittees so DSC can benefit from members' expertise, scrutiny and advice. It should specify the sign-off route. Reflect on the different interests/aims of each group and propose the most effective way to engage with them.*
 - *Suggest what internal and/or external research might be required to support DSC's position (you do not need to conduct this research), to address any likely evidence gaps.*
- 6) Next steps

Further guidance

- We recommend applicants spend 60-90 minutes on the task
- Please note a 850 word limit applies (excluding subject line and any comments)
- AI use is allowed but must be disclosed

Rubric

We will score your response against the following criteria from the person specification:

- Excellent communications skills including high level of written and spoken English, ability to write succinctly, persuasively and accurately in various formats
- Adept at developing excellent interpersonal relationships
- Excellent computer literacy including Microsoft suite (word and excel) and awareness of appropriate Gen-AI use
- Ability to plan, organise and prioritise workload reliably, including in collaboration with other team members and external senior colleagues
- Ability to understand and evaluate evidence, assessing statistics and arguments and engaging with academic research and researchers.
- Understanding of rules on sensitive information and confidential data
- Understanding of, and commitment to, equality, diversity and inclusion as set out in UUK's Equal Opportunity policy.
- Experience supporting events
- Experience in higher education or the health sector (any role) - desirable criterion
- Experience or participating in a membership organisation – desirable criterion
- Experience working with stakeholders - desirable criterion