“x x x ‘s dental graduates are really, really good”
Innate qualities (Alison & Kay, 2009)

- Communication
- Empathy
- Flexibility
- Honesty
- Decision making
- Team worker
- Self insightful
- Pro-social behaviour
Recruitment is key

Select on the immutables
  (innate qualities)

Build curricula to develop the mutables
  (learnable skills)
Also ...

- Cohort effect

Numbers of People

Simple                       Medium               Complex

Treatment Needs
Community engagement, preventatively oriented, public health positive

PLUS

Very high level of technical and communication skills
To be a community which develops and influences dental health care professionals to have the knowledge and skills to enhance oral health, in both individuals and the public.
Absolute commitment to:-

Professionalism
- lifelong learning
- patient centeredness
- evidence based practice

Dental skills
- clinical
- communication

Societal awareness
- community orientation
Social awareness

- Contribute at least as much to community as they derive from it
- Feel responsible for public health as well as individuals’ dental problems
- Want to share what they ‘know’
- ‘Connectedness’
A dental school which exists in, and for, the community it serves

Graduates who are equipped to be first class, multi-skilled general dental practitioners

A dental school which focuses on primary care and public health, not specialisms
Community Engagement Team
- non clinical approach
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept</th>
<th>Delivery</th>
<th>Community impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A dental school for the community it serves</td>
<td>Dental Education Facilities based in neighbourhoods</td>
<td>Access to state of the art dental care facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduates equipped to be first class dental practitioners</td>
<td>Opportunities for students to ‘find out’ more about population groups, communities and impact of health.</td>
<td>Students engage directly with people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A dental school which focuses on primary care and public health, not specialisms</td>
<td>Provide treatment and care alongside supporting health improvement strategies</td>
<td>Community groups and organisations enabling and supporting modules and learning opportunities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our remit.......
Community based modules
Inter Professional Engagement

Year 1

Fact Finding

Learning outcomes include:
- Team working
- Communication
- Use evidenced based research and literature reviews
- Treating people with respect, equality and dignity

Year 2

Plan and deliver an intervention

Learning outcomes include:
- Engage with a range of specialists and other relevant individuals/groups
- Provide patients with preventative education and instruction
- Critically appraise appropriate research materials
- Explain roles and referral networks
- Develop communication and interpersonal skills
# Examples of dental student led project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner organisation</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Population group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green Ark Childrens Centre</td>
<td>Fluoride varnish application</td>
<td>Under 5’s and their parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army</td>
<td>Create health passport</td>
<td>Men and women who are homeless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient support group</td>
<td>Create information resource</td>
<td>Head and neck cancer patients and their families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Nurse Partnership</td>
<td>Devise and deliver oral health training</td>
<td>Staff team</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reflection

Students
Prevention is the key
Encourages students to think outside of the box; be creative
Improves patient management skills
Builds awareness of different population groups; cultures, backgrounds
Walk a mile in another person's shoes

Community
Increase awareness of key oral health messages
Opportunity to influence dental clinicians of the future
Increase opportunities for client group
Challenge perceptions
Partnership working

“you don’t know what you don’t know, this has really challenged me and I ‘get it’ now!”
Student quotes:

“this has been a really valuable experience.”

“it’s important to provide support to the most disadvantaged families as it impacts directly on their health.”

“it was useful to find out about how the organisation runs and how it operates.”

Community quotes:

“always good to have students working with us; they bring new ideas and different ways of working.”

“the group encouraged our guys to access dental treatment which has been hugely beneficial.”

“I would recommend any community organisation to get involved; the students are great”
Benefit

- Clinicians for 21\textsuperscript{st} century
- Treating the whole person not just teeth
- Increasing confidence
- Deeper and more realistic understanding of people
- Societal benefit
- Volunteering
- It's good fun!
Outreach projects
Opportunities

- Community Engagement Team now deliver a ‘community pathway’ week for 3rd year medical students
- Develop and expand this across other faculties
- Encompass effective ‘public and patient involvement’ as part of research projects
- Support modules eg MBA Healthcare

“Community and social awareness is very current; demonstrates partnership, reduces duplication and is cost effective.”
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