Dear Parent/Guardian

**MedStart4U Taster Day**

East Kent Hospitals University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is delighted to be able to offer a one day taster day for Year 11 and 12 students who are considering exploring a career in medicine.

We are able to offer a number of dates at our 3 participating hospitals. To secure a place, the student should apply as quickly as possible as numbers will be restricted.

- **Tuesday 5th March 2019** at the Kent & Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury
- **Tuesday 2nd April 2019** at the William Harvey Hospital, Ashford
- **Friday 28th June 2019** at the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital, Margate

Work experience at East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (as with all NHS Trusts) is increasingly difficult to organise given the life of busy hospitals. This is one of the reasons why MedStart4U Taster Day is a great opportunity for a hands-on experience that can be referenced in any medical school application.

A poster and additional information pack has been provided to the school and should provide you with all the necessary information but do get in touch if you have any queries. MedStart4U Taster Day is an exciting, interactive day and the feedback we receive from students who have participated in previous MedStart4U days has been extremely positive.

**MedStart Plus Work Experience Block Week**

**For those who have attended a Medstart4U Taster Day**

In addition to the MedStart4U Taster Day we are also offering students aged 16 or over (at the time of placement) the opportunity to experience working in a Hospital and General Practice setting – this is our MedStart Plus work experience block week and the dates are:

- **Week Commencing 11th March 2019**
- **Week Commencing 15th April 2019**
- **Week Commencing 8th July 2019**

MedStart Plus will give the student the opportunity to spend 2 days in a hospital setting and 2 days in a GP Practice, commencing with an induction day at the hospital. Once the student has chosen the dates that suit them and the school, then they can select which hospital they would like their placement to be in.
Participating hospitals are:

- William Harvey Hospital in Ashford
- Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother Hospital in Margate
- Kent & Canterbury Hospital in Canterbury

We will try to ensure that the hospital and GP placements are in the students’ preferred area but this cannot be guaranteed.

We believe that both the MedStart4U and MedStart Plus events are a great opportunity for students considering a career in medicine to come and experience what life is like in a hospital and GP setting. We will have experts on hand to offer advice about how to apply for medical school and what they can expect from this career path as well as the opportunity to shadow consultants in their day-to-day work.

All of the events will depend upon reaching a minimum number of attendees. If this is not achieved then we reserve the right to cancel the event.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from our website http://meded.ekhuft.nhs.uk/resources/medstart4u/ or contact our administrator jane.richens@nhs.net. The application form asks for parental or guardian consent and this would be required before we can accept any application.