

**The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health  
Interview Framework 2012  
CANDIDATES GUIDANCE**

**Summary of the process**

- All candidates to rotate through **FOUR** stations
- Length of each station 10 minutes (+ 45 minutes preparation for clinical presentation and prescribing task)
- TWO consultant interviewers scoring independently at each station

**The interview consists of:**

- Communication Station
- Structured Interview
- Clinical Presentation Station
- Paediatric Clinical Thinking Station

All applicants to be scored out of a total of 160 (each station to carry a maximum score of 40). In order to be deemed “appointable” the candidate must score a minimum of 80/160. For 2011, there are no pass or fail stations.

**The Interview Process**

The interview process comprises of four stations, each lasting 10 minutes (in addition to clinical presentation preparation time). Two consultant assessors are required to mark candidates in each station.

**Communication Station**

This station is designed to assess the ability of the candidate to interact with patients/and or parents.

Prior to beginning this station, candidates will be given a short time to familiarise themselves with the scenario on which they are being assessed. Upon entering the room, the assessment will start. Candidates are not required to interact with the panel themselves, only the actor(s).

In a change from previous years, this station holds equal weighting to the others. Accordingly candidates are not required to meet a minimum score in this station to be deemed “appointable”.

Skill to be assessed	Range of scores
Introduction, summary and closure	0-4
Listening skills	0-4
Verbal and non verbal communication skills	0-4
Content	0-4
Overall performance and attitudes	0-4

## Structured Interview

This station will assess the following:

- **Part 1 Portfolio (suitability for a career in paediatrics)** Candidates are advised to prepare the following documents (**in paper form**) from their portfolio to be used to demonstrate suitability to the specialty:
  - 1 recent PDP
  - 2 CBD
  - 2 Audits
  - Careers Planning section
  - Reflective Log

In addition to the answer the candidate provides to demonstrate their suitability for the specialty, they will also be assessed on the standard of documentation they have brought for assessment (e.g. whether the documentation is complete, whether they have brought the above documents etc).

**Candidates are not required to produce an entire portfolio. Points will be deducted should a whole portfolio be produced.**

- **Part 2 Governance:** Candidates will be asked a question to enable them to demonstrate their understanding and awareness of clinical governance.

The scoring framework for this station is tailored towards the specific questions being asked.

## Paediatric Clinical Thinking

This station will consist of the following two elements:

- **Prescribing Task:** Candidates will be provided with a BNFC, calculator, a drug chart and scenario detailing the drug they are being asked to prescribe. Candidates will be asked to prepare the drug chart during the preparation station. Upon entering the Clinical Thinking station candidates should hand their completed drug chart to the assessor. You will not be asked to discuss the drug chart.
- **Clinical Scenario:** Candidates are provided with a scenario and asked to describe how they would manage the situation. This station will have a focus on paediatrics, however at ST1 level the scenarios have been set to ensure that candidates who have not previously done a paediatric post will not be disadvantaged.

The scoring framework for this station is tailored towards the specific questions being asked.

## Clinical Presentation Station

Candidates are asked to prepare and present a clinical case which includes data interpretation and clinical management. The presentation will be for 8 minutes (this is to allow 2 minutes to set up and dismantle the presentation. Candidates will be notified of the topic on the day of interview and expected to prepare their clinical presentation as part of the 45 minute preparation time allocated. In most deaneries, PowerPoint will be used to present the topic, however some deaneries may provide acetates.

Skill to be assessed	Range of scores
Presentation Skills	0-4
Time Management	0-4
Ability to interpret data	0-4
Clinical Management	0-4
Organisational Skills	0-4

### Interview Cycle

The cycle will consist of 4 x 10 minute stations and time needed for preparation of presentation station and transportation of candidate.

Example cycle:

