Dear Student,

You will soon be coming to Cambridge to begin your course in Medicine and I am sending you a copy of the Course Handbook. Please ensure you keep this electronic copy to refer to during the course. It gives you basic information about the course and explains how the University teaching and exams are organised and will be a useful reference for you in the first two years of study.

The Handbook contains a copy of the University’s formal Code of Conduct for student doctors. You should read this and the GMC and Medical Schools Council guidance: “Achieving Good Medical Practice”.

Early in your course you will be asked to sign a declaration, the Medical Student Register Agreement, which is reproduced at the back of the Handbook, stating that you have read these documents, and agree to abide by the conditions set out in them.

Over the summer, you might also like to take a look at some resources we have put together for new students, in particular those without A level Biology or A level Mathematics. They include a list of key concepts in cell biology and a course on statistics for medical students. This is not meant to be something that you have to work through exhaustively, but if you are familiar with most of the terms and concepts described, your first few weeks in Cambridge will be easier. You will find this preparatory work for new students on our website.

I am looking forward to all the new medics arriving at the start of October, but before then have a great summer!

Dr Fiona Russell
Secretary, Faculty Board of Biology
Deputy Secretary of School of the Biological Sciences