

SAS LEADS ANNUAL CONFERENCE



"Championing SAS: Recognition, Progression & Advocacy in Practice"

25th September 2026 Voco Oxford Spires Hotel, Oxford

SAS doctors are the backbone of the NHS workforce, experienced, committed and too often underrecognised. This development day brings together SAS Leads, Advocates, Portfolio Leads and Support Teams to tackle that head on. Whether you're building a business case for colleague's progression, navigating the system on someone's behalf, or looking to make your role as a tutor or advocate more effective, this day is designed around your challenges.

Come ready to connect, challenge and collaborate. We'll explore what good advocacy looks like in practice, how we build cases that open doors for SAS doctors and how we work better together across our different roles. You'll also have the opportunity to put your questions directly to the Chair of Medical Education Leaders and get involved in shaping how we support the SEiD award going forward. This is a working day and your voice matters in it.



09:00 - 09:30 Registration & Networking

09:30 - 09:45 Welcome & Introduction
Scene-setting: the current SAS landscape, purpose of the day & what we want to leave with

09:45 - 11:00 Session 1: Building the Business Case

Supporting the progression & recognition of Specialist & Associate Specialist roles

- Why recognition matters and the SAS doctor's journey
- What does a strong business case look like?
- Barriers and enablers: what are we working with?
- Workshop/small group discussion: building the case in your context

11:00 - 11:20 Mid-morning Break

11:20 - 12:30 Session 2: Teaming - Advocating Together

Working as Tutors, Advocates & Leads to develop and champion SAS doctors

- Roles & responsibilities: who does what and where do we overlap?
- Practical collaboration: case studies or worked examples
- Where are the gaps and what gets in the way?
- Action planning: what can we commit to collectively?

12:30 - 13:15 Lunch Break

13:15 - 14:00 Session 3: Audience with the Chair of Medical Education Leaders UK - Prof Marwan Bukhari

Open dialogue and Q&A, bringing challenges & opportunities directly to leadership

14:00 - 15:30 Session 4: Supporting Development and the SEiD Awards

14:00 - 14:15 *How your PGMED team can support the SAS doctor*
- Miss Rachel Snelgrove, MEM York & Scarborough NHS FT

14:15 - 15:10 *Maximising SAS Progression* - Dr Oliver Prince, Specialty Doctor in Anaesthetics, York

15:10 - 15:30 *The SEiD Awards* - Dr Andy Bolton, SAS AD Y&H

15:30 - 15:45 Final thoughts and Close

Why Attend?

Attend to network, collaborate and exchange ideas with other SAS leaders. This event provides a platform to discuss and enhance the SAS workforce together. Join us to contribute to meaningful debate.



To find out more and to book this course scan the QR code or visit: mededleaders.co.uk

Friday 25th
September
9:00 - 15:45

Location
Voco Oxford
Spires Hotel

