



**BeSST Mission:** To promote high-quality social and behavioural sciences for medical education to enhance the care of patients and populations.

**BeSST Vision:** To be a leading community of practice for social and behavioural sciences medical educators within the UK and internationally

#### **BeSST Aims**

- To champion social and behavioural sciences in medical education through active engagement with individuals, organisations, and policy-making bodies.
- To advance and influence the integration of behavioural and social sciences in medical education by leading and disseminating high-quality research and scholarship that informs educational practice, shapes policy, and guides national and institutional priority setting.
- To foster a vibrant and supportive community of practice facilitating networking, career development and the exchange of expert knowledge, experience and resources on effective teaching, learning, and assessment strategies related to social and behavioural sciences within medical education.

## BeSST 5-Year Strategic Plan (2025–2030)

### Overarching Goal of the 5 Year Plan

To advance the presence and significance of the social and behavioural sciences (SBS) in medical education, while broadening their impact across other areas of healthcare professions education. This includes advocating for curriculum space, supporting educators, promoting equity and inclusion, advancing research, and sustaining SBS as a priority in evolving models of healthcare education.

### Review Cycle

BeSST will undertake an annual review process, publishing a Year in Review summary and progress report aligned with this strategic plan to be presented at the AGM. Midway through the cycle (Year 3), a strategic refresh will be conducted to ensure responsiveness to external changes.

Priority Area	Objectives	Key Actions	Outcomes
<b>1. Support the effective integration of SBS in medical education</b>	1.1 Ensure the continued relevance and visibility of SBS in evolving medical curricula.	Develop a good practice guide on SBS for regulatory and curriculum bodies	Good practice guide is completed and circulated
	1.2 Embed SBS in key national educational benchmarks.	Promote the core curricula across medical schools and GMC	Core curricula is sent to all medical schools. Meet to discuss with GMC
	1.3 Promote appropriate pedagogical and assessment strategies for SBS.	Engage with key groups (e.g., MSCAA) to advocate for high quality SBS content inclusion.  Host events on SBS teaching, learning and assessment strategies	BeSST assessment group contributes AKT question bank  5 events held each year

		Support educators to understand and engage with AI in teaching, learning and assessing SBS.	Host workshops and discussions on AI.
<b>2. Develop BeSST as a vibrant and supportive community of practice</b>	2.1 Develop the community of practice through sharing of knowledge, experience and practice	<p>Continue to hold regular events in different formats, to enable sharing of practice, knowledge and experience.</p> <p>Update the website as platform to share resources</p> <p>Work with the student group to build online resources via existing platforms eg ScholarRx</p>	<p>5 events held each year</p> <p>Website updated and resources added</p> <p>Resources developed and shared</p>
	2.2 Foster interprofessional collaboration to promote SBS in healthcare professions education beyond medicine	Build collaborative projects with other healthcare education communities (e.g., dentistry nursing, pharmacy, paramedics)	<p>Relevant educator groups are identified.</p> <p>Joint meeting(s) held and plans for collaboration are developed.</p>
	2.3 Foster international collaboration with relevant SBS educator groups	<p>Discuss opportunities for collaboration with existing connections</p> <p>Build new connections with international SBS groups</p>	<p>Collaboration leads to events, outputs etc</p> <p>Relevant groups in other countries identified and connections made</p>
	2.4 Support the career development of SBS educators	<p>Offer mentoring opportunities within the community of practice</p> <p>Host a career development event</p> <p>Support the student group to host a student-focused event</p>	<p>Mentoring scheme developed</p> <p>Career event held</p> <p>Student-led event held</p>

		Collate 'career profiles' of BeSST committee.	Profiles added to website
	2.5 Enhance BeSST's social media presence	Assign a social media lead  Develop a social media plan to increase presence	Social media lead assigned  Plan developed and social media presence established
	3.1 Support and promote EDI-related scholarship and practice within the BeSST community.	Share SBS teaching materials focusing on health equity, decolonisation, and structural competency  Host events on inclusive curriculum design and anti-racist pedagogy	Materials shared  Events held
<b>3 Promote equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in SBS education</b>			
<b>4 Enhance research, evaluation, and strategic impact of BeSST</b>	4.1 Support research collaborations within the BeSST community of practice	Host research-focused events to discuss and develop grant proposals.  Share news of funding opportunities  Share BeSST members' publications on the website	Events held  Funding opportunities shared  Regular dissemination of BeSST-related research outputs.
	4.2 Influence policy and educational practice through evidence-informed scholarship	Conduct a 5-year impact evaluation of BeSST's contributions to SBS medical education.	Completion and publication of an impact report by Year 5.