

Would you like to
live and work in
England?

The NHS is looking for GPs to work in the areas of
NORTH WEST LONDON

INTRODUCTION

The National Health Service in England is running an international recruitment campaign for family doctors. In England these are called General Practitioners or GPs. We plan to recruit around 2,000 GPs from overseas by 2020. They will work alongside GPs we train in England to develop an exciting range of health services away from hospitals and in local community settings.

This brochure explains the importance of GPs in providing healthcare to our population. It tells you about the application process and what to expect when you apply. We are recruiting GPs for many areas across England. This brochure gives you an idea of the benefits and opportunities available to you if you choose to work in **North West London**.

WHY WORK AS A GP IN ENGLAND?

GPs in England are the foundation of the NHS. They are usually the first person a patient turns to for help and they deal with a whole range of health problems. They are general experts in the whole field of medicine for adults and children. They manage the healthcare of all their patients, including acute illness, long term conditions and mental health problems.

GPs usually work in practices, often leading teams which include nurses, healthcare assistants, practice managers, receptionists and other staff. Practices also work closely with other healthcare professionals, such as health visitors, midwives, pharmacists, physiotherapists, mental health services and social care services.

GPs provide continuing medical care for patients in the community or they will refer patients to hospital clinics for further assessment or treatment by specialists. Nine out of 10 NHS patients are seen in English general practice, and nearly nine out of 10 patients rate their experience of their GP practice as good. Because GPs often lead the continuing development of the NHS in England, we are investing an additional £2.4bn a year into general practice by 2021. The money is being used to recruit more doctors and other healthcare professionals, improve buildings and extend the use of information technology so general practice can offer more and better services to meet people's needs.

Any GP recruited under the international recruitment programme and working in the UK before 29 March 2019 will be able to stay and enjoy the same rights and benefits as now and qualifications of EU doctors will continue to be recognised if they were obtained before 29 March 2019. Recruitment will go beyond March 2019 and while we do not know details of a future immigration system yet, we will make clear how it applies to this programme as soon as possible.

Many GPs choose to work in England because of the attractive salaries and benefits. But the work offers much more: the chance to extend your clinical experience as part of a team of 1.2 million NHS employees, all of whom are proud to work for a 'national treasure' and many of whom have come to England from across the globe.

GENERAL PRACTICE IN ENGLAND

- If you choose to apply to work as a GP in **North West London** you will be supported with dedicated training programmes, help with meeting language requirements and in meeting the standards of the national Induction and Refresher (I&R) Scheme.
- You will have an opportunity to meet with staff from the recruiting practices and to learn more about them and the local areas. This will help you and the practices decide if this is the best place for you to live and work.
- Practices involved in this recruitment scheme will be offering attractive and competitive salaries.
- You and your family will be offered help to relocate to the area and continued support while you settle into your new community.

THE CANDIDATE PROCESS

If you apply to be a GP in England this is the application process you will follow:

STEP 1

An initial conversation in your own country with the recruitment agency for the area you are interested in working in and some background checks (including police checks).

STEP 2

You will be asked to take an English test organised by the recruitment agency. The agency will use the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or the Occupational English Test (medicine version) proficiency test for people wishing to study or work in English speaking countries.

STEP 3

You will have an interview in your own country by Skype. You start your registration with the General Medical Council (GMC). The GMC is the organisation which sets standards for doctors in the United Kingdom. You need to be registered with the GMC and be on the GMC's GP Register to work as a GP in England. You will be invited to complete a self-assessment to help identify any training needs.

STEP 4

You visit your chosen area to find out more about where you will be working and to meet other international GPs. You will have a second interview and an assessment of your learning needs.

STEP 5

Once you pass your second interview you will be able to join the programme. You will be allocated to a GP practice within the region.

STEP 6

You will be provided with a minimum of three months of training and observation in your employing practice to prepare you for the I&R assessments and improve your English language skills. You will then spend a minimum of six months treating patients with supervision and support from a senior GP at your practice.

THE NHS OFFERS A

COMPETITIVE PAY PACKAGE FOR GPs

Once you have gained entry to the National Medical Performers List without conditions you can expect to earn a salary of between £68,000 and £72,000 per year. This salary is the same across all parts of the NHS in England excluding London where you will receive additional funds to help with the increased living costs there, known as London weighting.

Alongside your salary there are many other financial benefits including paid maternity and paternity leave, parental and carers leave.

THE NHS IN ENGLAND

The National Health Service was founded in 1948, based on the principle that good healthcare should be available to all, regardless of wealth.

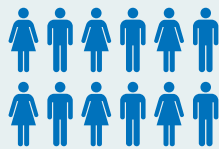
With the exception of some charges, such as prescriptions, optical services and dental services, the NHS in England remains free at the point of use for all UK residents.

In 2014, the Commonwealth Fund declared that in comparison with the healthcare systems of 10 other countries (Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the US) the NHS was the most impressive overall. The NHS was rated as the best system for its efficiency, safety, effectiveness, co-ordination and patient-centred care.

The NHS covers

54.3M PEOPLE

in England



It deals with more than

1M PATIENTS

every 36 hours



The NHS employs

1.2M PEOPLE



And has more than

40,500 GPs



LIVING IN...

NORTH WEST LONDON



London, the capital of the UK, is a 21st century city with history stretching back to Roman times

HEALTH SERVICES IN NORTH WEST LONDON

More than £4 billion a year is spent on providing North West London's health and care services for 2.4 million residents.

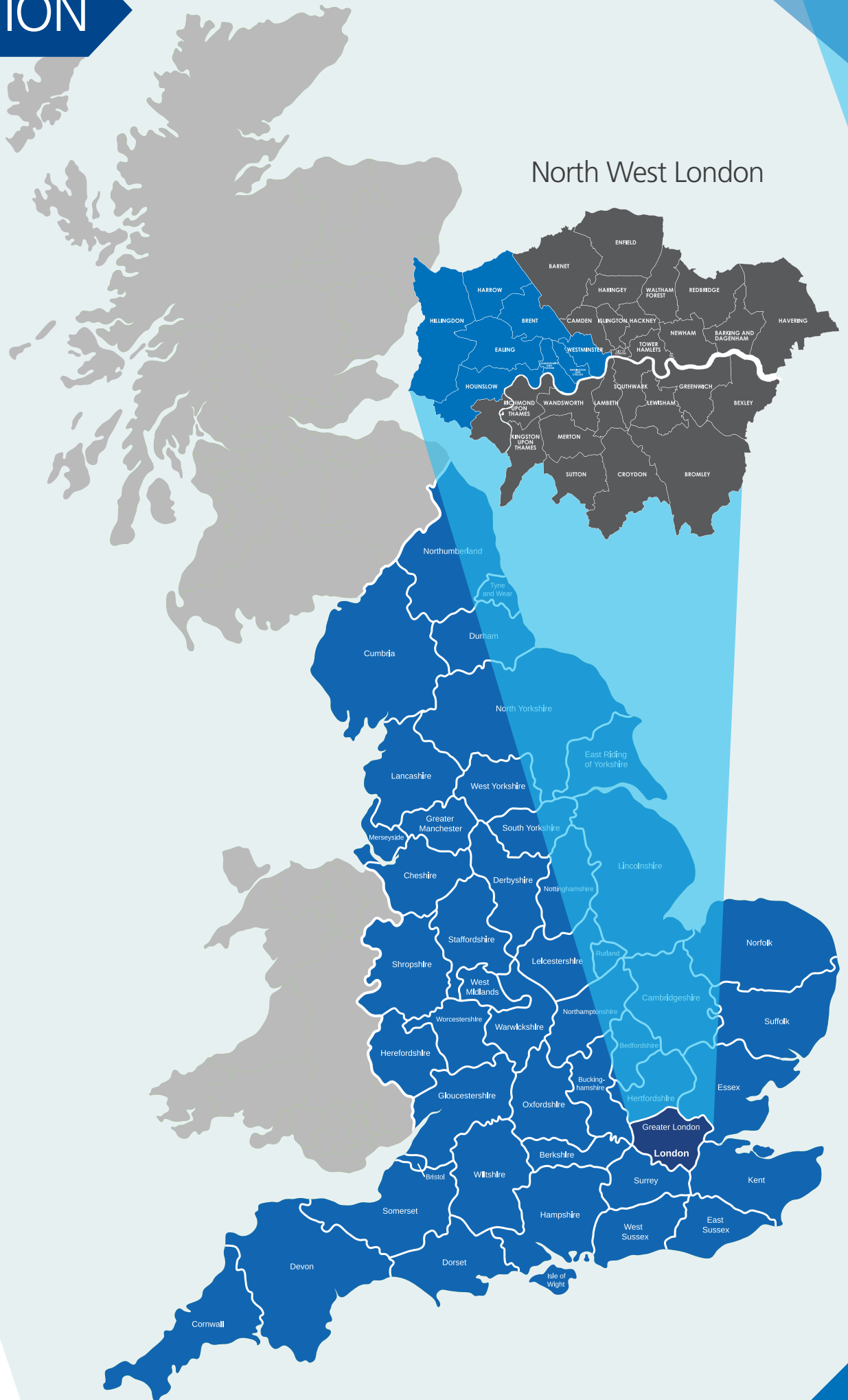
There are 400 GP practices, eight clinical commissioning groups (GP-led groups responsible for planning and buying NHS services), ten hospitals and four mental health and community health trusts across the eight boroughs.

Since 2016, these organisations and their local authority colleagues (in the boroughs of Brent, Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Kensington and Chelsea, and the City of Westminster) have been working together through the North West London Sustainability Partnership to create an integrated health and care system that provides high quality and sustainable services, supporting people to live well and be well.

North West London is a diverse area, with many of the capital's most famous historical and cultural landmarks, including Buckingham Palace and the Houses of Parliament. The area has benefited from significant regeneration and development, including the new high-speed railway line, known as the Elizabeth Line (formerly Crossrail), increasing transport links to Heathrow Airport and beyond.



LOCATION



North West London is a diverse part of the capital with a multicultural population, beautiful open spaces, sophisticated shopping, world famous art galleries, museums and entertainment plus great transport connections.

Boroughs in the patch include the central borough of Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham, Brent, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow and Richmond.

HILLINGDON

Best known for Heathrow Airport— one of the busiest airports in the world - Hillingdon is London's most westerly borough, popular with families due to its good schools and cheaper house prices.

Hillingdon sits in the Colne Valley Regional Park and is a culturally diverse area with a large Indian and Pakistani population, some great Indian and Nepalese restaurants as well as lovely gastropubs. Uxbridge has two major shopping centres and there are some great markets and quality independent food stores.

The Compass Theatre in Ickenham and the Winston Churchill Theatre in Ruislip offer comedy nights and theatre productions, while nature lovers can explore more than 200 parks and green spaces, walks along the River Crane and the Grand Union Canal or enjoy outdoor swimming at Ruislip Lido.

BRENT

Brent is a culturally diverse, buzzing borough, boasting some top shopping and cultural attractions such as BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir (also known as Neasden Temple), an architectural marvel.

Wembley Stadium, home to English football, is on your doorstep, along with the SSE Arena (formerly Wembley Arena), both hosting some of the country's biggest music, comedy and sporting events. Shoppers are spoilt for choice with bargain prices at the London Designer Outlet and Brent Cross Shopping Centre, with 120 shops, restaurants and cafés under one roof.

For walks and wildlife try the Welsh Harp nature reserve or Fryent Country Park.



HOUNSLOW

Hounslow is a cosmopolitan mix of communities with a lively cultural scene, including one of the largest Indian communities in the UK.

Well connected to central London, Hounslow is an area of contrasts, from affluent, leafy Chiswick to densely populated areas such as Feltham. The area offers a wide selection of restaurants. Chiswick offers fine-dining restaurants, riverside pubs and cafés, while Hounslow town centre has some excellent Indian and South Asian restaurants.

There are plenty of things to see and do in Hounslow. There are five stately homes, including Osterley Park, Chiswick House and Syon House, all magnificently decorated and with beautiful gardens. For exhibitions and productions try Hounslow's Arts Centre and the Paul Robeson Theatre, while popular green spaces include Hounslow Urban Farm and Bedfont Lakes Country Park's nature reserve.

WESTMINSTER (CENTRAL LONDON)

Westminster is home to all that is quintessentially thought of as London: Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace and West End Theatres. As a result, it has one of the highest house prices in the UK.

The cultural life and amenities in this central London borough are unrivalled. Choose from world-class musicals and theatre productions, a range of galleries and museums, including the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square and the Sherlock Holmes Museum in Marylebone. The beautiful green open spaces of Hyde Park and Regent's Park offer a break from busy city life.

There are hundreds of shopping opportunities on Oxford Street, Regent Street and Bond Street, while the restaurants and independent eateries in Soho, Marylebone, Mayfair and Covent Garden are some of the best in London.

HARROW

Harrow is one of London's outermost boroughs offering a much more relaxed pace of life, yet only 20 minutes from central London.

One fifth of the borough is green open space with areas such as Pinner, Stanmore and Harrow on the Hill, which surrounds the famous Harrow School, retaining many historic buildings and a village atmosphere. With good-sized homes and outstanding state and independent schools, Harrow is popular with growing young families.

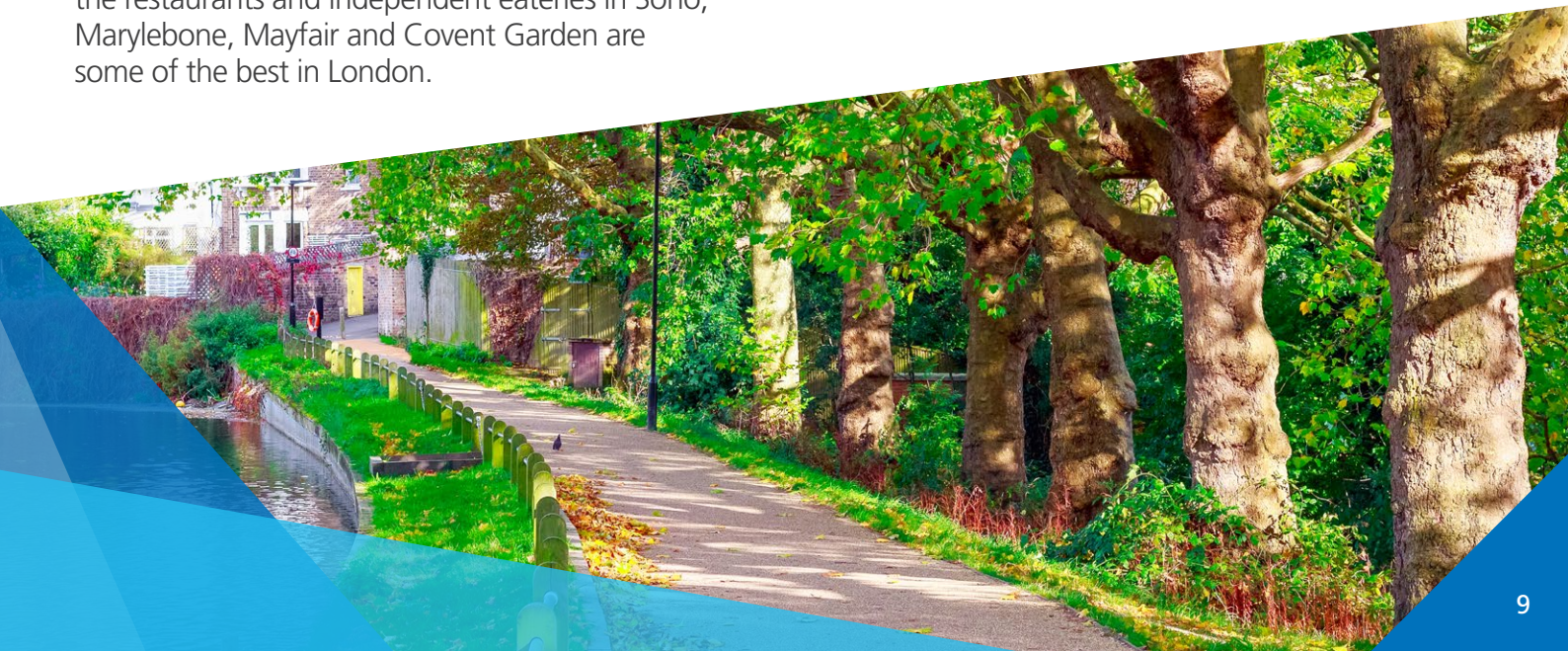
Harrow town centre has two large shopping centres, home to all of the major high street brands and, as a result of the large Indian community, the borough has some fantastic authentic Indian and South Asian restaurants.

EALING

The borough is known for being the home of Ealing Studios, the heart of the British film industry and the oldest studio in the world. It is an area popular with families, with good schools and excellent transport links which are set to expand with several new stops on the Elizabeth Line.

Culturally diverse with large Polish, Irish and South Asian communities, the borough holds multicultural events throughout the year. Southall, known as 'Little India', celebrates Diwali with huge firework displays. The popular London Melee showcases British Asian arts and music, while Ealing Common hosts family events, blues and comedy festivals.

There's a huge array of interesting places to eat. In West Ealing you'll find Greek, Caribbean and Iranian restaurants or head to Southall for Indian street food and restaurants.



KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Stretching from the River Thames to Kensal Green, Kensington and Chelsea is a diverse borough with some of the most expensive areas of London, like Belgravia and Kensington, side by side with some of the poorest.

Home to London's Museum District, South Kensington includes the Science Museum, the Victoria & Albert Museum and the Natural History Museum. Cadogan Hall, the Albert Hall and Royal Court Theatre provide just some of the entertainment for music and theatre lovers and there are a number of independent arthouse cinemas.

For luxury shopping, Knightsbridge is home to Harrods, Harvey Nichols, Prada and Gucci. High Street Kensington and the King's Road offer high-street brands and independent boutiques, alongside cafés, rooftop bars and cool restaurants. Colourful Portobello Road Market and Notting Hill are great for vintage clothes, antiques and jewellery, while Kensal Green has numerous pubs, bars and restaurants.

HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

Hammersmith is home to the Hammersmith Apollo, one of London's best known music venues, as well as two Premiership football clubs, Chelsea and Fulham.

The borough offers a vibrant cultural life ranging from concerts at the Shepherd's Bush Empire to events and exhibitions at Earl's Court Exhibition Centre. There are numerous pubs dotted along the Thames and plenty of restaurants and cafés to eat and drink, including the famous Riverside Café in Fulham.

The giant Westfield Shopping Centre in White City offers 255 shops including high-end designer brands and high street chains. For fabrics, falafel and fresh food, Shepherd's Bush Market is just a short walk away.

For green spaces visit Ravenscourt Park, with a lake, tennis courts and cafés, or try the walled gardens of Bishop's Park beside Fulham Palace, the former summer retreat of the Bishops of London.

NOT TO BE MISSED

Discover 1,000 years of British history at Westminster Abbey, the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Place and admire the fountains and architecture of Trafalgar Square. From there it's a short walk to Downing Street, home of Britain's Prime Minister, the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben.

Every August, Notting Hill Carnival attracts more than a million people to Europe's biggest street festival with a parade of floats, colourful costumes, steel bands and DJ sets.

Hyde Park holds outdoor concerts and events throughout the summer. You could also spend the day at Kensington Gardens and Holland Park taking in Kensington Palace, the ruins of Holland House, the Serpentine Art Gallery and the Diana Memorial Playground, dedicated to Princess Diana.

CULTURE / ENTERTAINMENT

There is no shortage of culture and entertainment in North West London, all within easy reach. There are nearly 40 theatres in the West End alongside the busy pubs, clubs and restaurants in Soho, Leicester Square, Covent Garden and Chinatown.

Westminster is home to some of the world's great art galleries including Tate Britain, while classical music fans can enjoy concerts at the Royal Albert Hall, recitals at Westminster Abbey and opera at Covent Garden.

FOOD AND DRINK

North West London is full of fantastic places to eat. For those seeking Michelin-starred restaurants try Five Fields and Kitchen W8 in Kensington and Chelsea or the French restaurants in South Kensington.

For food on the go, head to Southall for Indian and Pakistani street food or Portobello Road for Mediterranean, Turkish and Caribbean food.

SPORT

North West London is home to a number of top sporting venues. Wembley Stadium is the national football stadium for the FA Cup and England's home internationals. Lord's Cricket Ground holds national and international Test matches, while major cycling events and the London Marathon usually finish in the shadow of Buckingham Palace on The Mall.

If you want to take part, there are hundreds of sports centres, gyms and sports clubs to join including the Serpentine Swimming Club, Saracen's rugby club and Chelsea running club.

EDUCATION

There is a wide range of state and independent schools for all ages. Full-time state (free of charge) education is available for 5-18 year olds and part-time nursery places for 3-4 year olds. More than 20 colleges, universities and educational institutes are based in North Central London, including Kings College London, Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Art, University of Westminster, Imperial College London, London School of Economics and Political Science, Brunel University, Met Film School and the Institute of Contemporary Performance.

TRANSPORT

London has an integrated transport system which means that a daily, weekly or monthly travel pass will allow you to use the tube, trains, commuter boats and buses.

TRAIN AND LONDON UNDERGROUND

There are plenty of underground (often called 'the Tube') and overground trains throughout North West London which all take you into central London.

The Elizabeth Line opens in central London in December 2018, with a full service through to Reading starting in December 2019. The western route will run from Paddington to Heathrow and Reading, with stations at Acton, Southall, West Ealing and West Drayton, among others.

LONDON BUSES

London's bus network covers the city, including North Central London, with some routes providing a 24 hour service.

ROAD

In London public transport is often the fastest way to travel but North West London is well connected by the North Circular, connecting traffic to the M1 to the north and the M4 to the south west. The Congestion Charge applies to most vehicles which drive into central London during the week. Residents inside the congestion charge zone, in areas like Westminster, can apply for a 90 per cent discount.

AIRPORTS

West London is home to Heathrow Airport, the UK's busiest airport. From here, you can fly to 185 destinations in 84 countries, including destinations right across Europe, North and South America, Africa, Asia and Australia.

WEATHER

Although London has one of the mildest climates in the UK the weather can be unpredictable. Summer can be very pleasant with temperatures averaging 18°C. However, in recent years London has experienced heat waves with temperatures well above 30°C. Typical temperatures for winter are between 2 and 10°C. Temperatures don't often drop below freezing and snow isn't common.

MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information about our international recruitment programme or about living and working in **North West London** the following websites will be useful:

Visit London – www.visitlondon.com

North West London Sustainability Partnership
– www.healthiernorthwestlondon.nhs.uk

NHS ENGLAND'S PARTNERS:



Royal College of
General Practitioners

General
Medical
Council



BMA



Health Education England

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:

www.england.nhs.uk/igpr

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