

1970.

The Dorset House School of Occupational Therapy

Oxford



Prospectus

THE DORSET HOUSE SCHOOL OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

is recognized by

The Occupational Therapists Registration Board of the
Council for the Professions Supplementary to Medicine,
The Department of Education and Science,
The World Federation of Occupational Therapists, and
The Association of Occupational Therapists.

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THE DORSET HOUSE SCHOOL

The School, the oldest in the country, prepares students for the Diploma examinations of the Association of Occupational Therapists. Founded in Bristol in 1930, by Dr. Elizabeth Casson, the pioneer of the training of Occupational Therapists in this country, it was, in the last war, invited to the Midlands, to run the Ministry of Health's special training courses for the Emergency Medical Service, the experimental forerunner of the National Health Service.

In 1946 the School settled in Oxford, and is grateful to the "Town and Gown" of that city for the welcome given, and the consistent interest shown in its work.

The School became a non-profit making company in 1948. It provides a complete training for Occupational Therapists for work in all types of Hospitals and Rehabilitation Centres, and makes a special point of having highly qualified Tutors and Instructors. It is fortunate in being helped by specialist Lecturers, who are members of the University and Hospital staffs, and in having access to Oxford hospitals, libraries and museums, and to the Oxford Polytechnic and College of Further Education for special courses.

Post graduate courses are also offered: for particulars of these see a separate prospectus.

Occupational Therapy has been described as any work, or recreational activity . . . definitely prescribed by physician or surgeon for the purpose of aiding recovery from disease or injury, and of contributing to resettlement. It has come to be statutorily recognized as a profession supplementary to medicine.

Much of the practice is carried out in hospitals in the National Health Service, but there is also work in independent homes and hospitals, under local authorities, and in schools for the handicapped. State Registration, upon qualification, is advisable for all, and compulsory for those wishing to practice in the National Health Service.

Posts abroad are available for those with experience, and many of the pioneering ventures in training and practice in Europe, the Commonwealth, and elsewhere have been inaugurated by graduates from this school.

Scope, Therapeutic and Rehabilitative, in cases of:

Mental disease and sub-normality.

Physical illness, including heart disease, rheumatism and respiratory conditions, accident or disability, including orthopaedic conditions.

Occupational Therapy is carried on in hospitals and rehabilitation centres, and in patients' homes, and includes work with people of all ages.

Qualifications for an Occupational Therapist:

Tact, good judgment, integrity, and a mature outlook.

Initiative and enterprise.

A real interest in people.

Organizing and executive ability.

Serious interest in medical treatment.

Teaching facilities and Accommodation

The School is fortunate in having well planned premises, especially adapted and designed for theoretical and practical work. There are well stocked libraries with an up-to-date press cutting section, good lecturing facilities, and well-equipped workshops.

The Training Course

The course covers the study of:

I. The Body and Mind in Normal Health.

Anatomy and Physiology.

The Psychology of Everyday Life.

II. Deviations from Health by Deficiency, Disease and Trauma.

Medicine and Surgery.

Psychiatry.

III. **Activities**, practical, intellectual, vocational and recreational, among them :

Personal activities of daily living, and home-making activities related to home rehabilitation.

An introduction to art, commercial subjects, dressmaking (with special emphasis on the adaptation of clothes for the disabled), pottery, printing, weaving, wood and metal work.

An introduction to mechanics and elementary electricity for maintenance and management of apparatus used in treatment, and in the home.

Social recreations.

(Other special interests or hobbies may also be of use in this work.)

- IV. (a) The use of occupations for the prevention and treatment of disability, for assessment of disability, and/or residual ability, and for the re-development of function and skill.
- (b) A brief course of Introduction to Industry including method study, work measurement, assessment, etc., as it relates to the patients' working conditions and to departmental administration: book and record keeping.
- (c) An introduction to statutory and voluntary provisions for the disabled and their implementation.
- (d) The organization of group and individual activities.
- V. Clinical work in hospitals of all kinds and with home-bound cases. For this students are seconded to hospital and other occupational therapy departments in Oxford and other places round the country with which the School has particular links. Instruction and case studies are given by Medical Officers, trained Occupational Therapists and Tutors. At the end of the course further student practice, with, in some cases, hospitality, can be arranged in America, and in other countries.

Conditions of Admission to the Course

An adequate standard of theoretical examination capacity is necessary in applicants for training. Personal qualities as well as academic attainment are taken into consideration.

In view of changes in the pattern of subjects offered by applicants for vacancies, the entry requirements have been reviewed and the following are those which will now be considered:—

- A. 5 different subjects—(4 academic), 3 of which must be at “ O ” level or Grade I, C.S.E., and 2 of which must be at “ A ” level.
- B. 6 different subjects, to include 1 at “ A ” level and 4 at “ O ” level or Grade I, C.S.E. (5 academic) and 1 other.
- C. 6 different subjects to include—1 year’s full time recognized course (apply to School for particulars), and 5 at “ O ” level or Grade I, C.S.E. (4 academic and 1 other).
- D. 8 different subjects at “ O ” level or Grade I, C.S.E., 6 being academic.

The choice of subjects and the grades of passes at all levels will be taken into consideration.

(A Pass in English Language at “ O ” level or in Grade I of the C.S.E. is compulsory in each group and at least 3 subjects must be passed at one sitting.)

It cannot be stressed too much that all candidates should have as wide a general education as possible, and should not be encouraged to leave school too soon, nor to specialize too early. Further education in the post General Certificate period is considered of particular value.

We would draw the attention of applicants to the excellent courses and facilities being offered in Colleges of Further Education through which they may be able to attain the required standard at moderate expense.

A First-Aid Certificate (of the St. John Ambulance Brigade or the British Red Cross Society) is a requisite, and candidates are asked to obtain one before entry. If it is not possible to do so, *exemption has to be requested*, giving reasons. Students are then required to take a course and obtain a Certificate as an extra, in their first year.

Candidates accepted for training should come to the course with a knowledge of simple home cooking, learnt and/or practised in the home, so as to be able to help, later, with the rehabilitation of the disabled housewife. This will be checked on arrival and failure to attain the required standard may necessitate an extra course, at an extra fee, in the first year.

Any variation on the above would need to be agreed with the school.

Subjects recommended for candidates wishing to train in Occupational Therapy are:—

- Anatomy
- and/or Biology, especially Human Biology.
- and/or Physics
- and/or Chemistry
- and/or Zoology
- English
- Mathematics
- Latin
- History
- Geography
- Modern Languages
- Art, Music, etc.

Students under 18 are not accepted for training.

Older Candidates are welcomed and special consideration is given to the requirements of each. Pre-requisites may be varied in such cases, but it is essential that they should offer evidence of work or study of value as a preliminary to training. Some concessions in length of course and/or fees may be made, at the discretion of the school authorities.

There is no particular age limit for the course but Candidates over forty are apt to find it strenuous.

Residence

A watch is kept over the students' health and living conditions.

Hostel accommodation is available for younger students.

Older students may be resident in lodgings. Because requirements vary considerably these are not allocated, but help is given in choosing suitable accommodation. All lodgings have to be approved by the Welfare Officer.

Length of Course—Three years.

Students enter for training in September of each year.

For candidates offering special qualifications, shortened courses are arranged at the discretion of the School authorities.

Professional Prospects

Assistant Occupational Therapists, £942-£1,203.
Single-handed or Senior Occupational Therapists, £1,098-£1,404.

Posts are usually non-resident.

{ Higher paid posts are available up to £1,950 p.a. or more.

The profession is still in a pioneer stage, and a great deal depends upon personality, keenness, enterprise, and a thorough training. Posts are not guaranteed, but all students who have qualified at the School have obtained appointments so far, both at home and abroad.

Fees for Tuition

Fees are payable each term in advance (in the first fourteen days of term) and are not returnable. They are subject to revision, if costs change materially during the course.

Fees: An estimate of the total cost of the course is given in the enclosed leaflet which quotes the present level of tuition fees, hostel/lodgings charges, and other expenses.

Although there is a difference in the concentration of actual teaching sessions in the first, second, and third years, this School does not vary its termly charges throughout the course. The total cost of the whole course is, for convenience of payment, divided equally over nine terms.

A registration fee of £5 is payable on acceptance for the course, and is not returnable.

If for any reason a student has to terminate her course, a half term's notice is required, or fees must be paid in lieu, including, if applicable, hostel or lodgings fees.

Extras

Books, Materials, Uniform and Examination Fees: (see enclosed list).

(A list of requirements is supplied to each student on enrolment.)

Grants are available from Local Education Authorities for training in Occupational Therapy. They may cover fees and/or maintenance. Intending students are advised to enquire from The Director of Education in their home districts, for conditions of grant aid.

Conditions of Acceptance

The exercise of the profession of O.T. calls for certain special qualities of character and temperament and makes persistent demands upon the physical and mental resources of the practitioner. No student is therefore accepted without a personal interview. The first three months are regarded as probationary and at the end of this time the School Authorities reserve the right to accept or refuse any candidate for continued training. They also reserve the right thereafter, at any time, to take appropriate disciplinary action or to terminate the training of a student without refund of fees if, by conduct, character, or lack of consistency in her work she falls below the standard required in their opinion to attain proper professional responsibility and integrity, or if in the light of experience of her health and temperament the School Authorities would not feel justified, in her own interests and those of her future patients, in presenting her as a candidate for admission to the profession.

Interviews are given on Tuesdays and Thursday by appointment only. Appointments are offered on receipt of the completed application form (which puts the candidate under no obligation), subject to sufficient basic qualifications, and plans which show prospects of achieving the standards required in one of the categories quoted on page 4.

Candidates should, before or after interview, visit at least one hospital department of Occupational Therapy, to observe the work. The School will be glad to give introductions for these visits if necessary.

Post-Graduate Courses

These are arranged by the school for trained Occupational Therapists, or allied workers (*see* separate Prospectus).

The Dorset House School of Occupational Therapy,
Registered Office: W. M. Bayliss, Sons & Co.
Incorporated Accountants, 16 Broad Street, Oxford.

July, 1970.

THEORETICAL TUTORS:

MISS J. FRESTON, M.A.O.T., T.DIP.

MISS E. JAMES, M.A.O.T.

MISS J. KING, M.A.O.T.

MISS D. SOANE, M.A.O.T.

MRS. E. TAYLOR, M.A.O.T.

MRS. J. TAYLOR, M.A.O.T.

OCCUPATIONAL INSTRUCTORS:

MISS L. HANCE, WEAVING SPECIALIST

MISS S. F. MACLURE, N.D.D. IN POTTERY AND MODELLING.

S. J. MAGGS, C. & G. HANDCRAFT TEACHERS' EXAMINATION.

MRS. K. M. MURRAY, NEEDLEWORK SPECIALIST

MISS B. M. NICKLIN, PHYS. ED. DIP.

C. W. NOTT, ART & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS TEACHING EXPERIENCE.

MRS. M. SAGE, A.T.D.

MRS. P. SILVESTER, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON TEACHING CERT.

MRS. A. M. TURNER SMITH, R.M.N., M.A.O.T.

WARDENS:

MISS A. E. CHRISTER.

MISS S. FRASER.

MISS L. JONES.

WELFARE OFFICER:

MRS. V. BROWN.

