

# Checking and accounting for equipment

	Types of learning	Resources	UK General Dental Council learning outcome(s)	Session learning outcome(s)
Session	Didactic elements	Instrument log sheets Chapters 1,3,4,5,6,7,20	12.2	Effectively account for and maintain basic dental instruments and equipment
				Identify individual instruments within/ attached to simulator units, account for their presence and clean and maintain them
				Assemble the simulator unit for safe use, and close down the unit appropriately
				Identify and encourage correct seating positions

## Teaching notes

### KEY POINTS:

- ✓ *Identify equipment*
  - ✓ Introduce accountability
  - ✓ Reinforce general sessional requirements and expectations
- This session will usually sit towards the very beginning of the skills course. As such, it is a perfect opportunity to introduce your expectations of the students, and how you anticipate the sessions will run.
  - The session should start promptly and there should be a discussion about professionalism and the attendance policy. Late attendance will not be tolerated, and it is often assumed by the students that it is acceptable to arrive at the session start time. Explain that clinical and simulator environments require preparation before work can begin, and so there is an expectation that students will arrive in good time to set up.
  - The functions and names of the instruments should be introduced using a microscope or a document camera if possible. Take the time to highlight the functional features of each instrument. The dialogue in Chapter 4 provides a useful framework.
  - At the same time, students should work through their own kits ensuring that instruments are clean and in working order. They should be able to account for the whereabouts of their instruments at all times during the sessions, and (where applicable) understand that they will be jointly responsible with another student for the instruments. This is a good opportunity to introduce the concept of shared accountability.
  - The session is also a good opportunity for the students to check that all teeth within their simulator jaws are present and tight. If using plastic simulator teeth, take care not to over-tighten otherwise the screws will shear – highlight the cost to the students, as they often think that there is an unlimited resource available to them.
  - Good posture should be introduced and the students made aware that this will be monitored throughout the course. The material in Chapter 6 will serve as a good reference.
  - Finally, students should be encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and familiarise themselves with the study guide and the reading materials for the course. The course guide should be comprehensive enough to detail the expected learning outcomes for each session (they are provided within this series of teaching notes and how they map to the GDC curriculum). A curriculum map might also provide a useful overview of the course.