



Partner Profile:

British School of Osteopathy (BSO)

The British School of Osteopathy (BSO) is the largest and the oldest osteopathic school in the UK. They are respected throughout the world for providing excellence in health care, education and research. The BSO was founded in 1917 and became a charity in 1963. The BSO mission statement is 'To be a centre of excellence in osteopathic education, research and health care for the benefit of the whole community.'

To achieve the BSO's mission, it aims to promote the following values across all facets of the BSO, its staff and students:

- Students and patients will always come first
- A culture of critical enquiry, scholarship and research
- Respect for the heritage and values of osteopathy
- Respect for creativity and innovation
- Respect for equal opportunities
- A celebration of diversity
- A culture of openness and honesty
- A culture of collaboration and teamwork
- A desire for environmental sustainability

The BSO employs approximately 43 full time staff, and 126 part time staff, and there are approximately 524 students in total studying at the school. BSO is located in London but has memoranda of understandings with other schools.

The British School of Osteopathy seeks to provide our students with the highest quality osteopathic education programmes to enable them to develop into patient-centred practitioners equipped to deal with the challenges of the modern healthcare arena. They also seek to provide evidence-informed best practice healthcare to the community. They do this by aiming to be an international centre of excellence celebrating diversity in all our activities. We provide leadership in osteopathic education, research and health care; and are committed to innovation, scholarship, professional collaboration and best practice.

The BSO's clinical centre sees over 800 patients a week and provides some 40,000 appointments a year. This is important in supporting the education of osteopathic practitioners. It also provides osteopathy in a community which was previously limited. Some 50% of its patients pay concessionary fees. The BSO also has outreach clinics in the community which provide treatment free of charge for groups including homeless people and elderly people, as well as in-house clinics providing osteopathic care to children, expectant mothers and patients with HIV/AIDS.



BSO has no special programmes. The BSO was shortlisted for the 2010 *Charity Times* Charity of the Year award (income £1m+) and has recently been recognised as one of the 100 Best Public Sector Places to Work 2011 in the Sunday Times list. The BSO has just started the first osteopathic professional doctorate programme in Europe.

The British School of Osteopathy

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