

Licence in Dental Surgery

Part 1 Candidate Guidance

What does the exam test?

All parts of the LDS exam assess the outcomes in the GDC's *Safe Practitioner Framework*. To pass the exam, you will need to demonstrate these outcomes at the level of a safe Day One BDS qualified dentist.

You should first make sure you are familiar with the **LDS Syllabus** on our website, which shows which learning outcomes can be assessed in the Part 1. The exam will assess a range of these outcomes but may not assess every outcome.

What does the exam look like on the day?

The Part 1 exam is delivered online using the **Surpass examination software** which candidates must download in advance to their own personal computer or laptop. You may sit the examination anywhere as long as it:

- Well-lit
- You are alone and will not be disturbed
- You have a strong and stable internet connection.

The examination is split into two papers – Paper A and Paper B. Before the exam, you will receive a confirmation email that includes the start time of Paper A and Paper B. The start time will be provided as **UK time** and you will need to factor this in if you are sitting the exam outside of the United Kingdom.

Each paper has two sections and you can take a 10-minute comfort break in between the sections. You will not be able to return to any questions in the first section of the paper after this break, so you should ensure that you have completed any questions that you have lagged questions in the first section of the paper before the midpoint break.

You should review the information on using Surpass and the Proctor Exam system [here](#) prior to sitting the exam. This includes information on:

- How to carry out your system check
- How to set up your exam
- Electronic system requirements (laptop/desktop computer, mobile phone)

There is also a video that demonstrates the functionality of Surpass [here](#).

Approximately **5 days** before the exam, you will receive an email will request that you carry out a **system check**. Instructions will be provided how to do this.

A day or two prior to your examination date, you will receive another email providing you with a link to your examination.

You should aim to be ready for your exam 15 minutes before the exam start time. However, the exam link will not go live until the exam start time;

Your mobile phone will be used as a secondary device to provide a video feed of your examination room.

It is your responsibility to ensure you are sitting the exam in a location with a strong and stable internet connection. A weak or intermittent internet connection will result in loss of video recordings and RCS England are unable to issue results to candidates who have not been monitored through their video recordings during the exam.

How is the LDS Part 1 exam marked?

Each question is an SBA question. You will be presented with a short clinical scenario and **5 possible options**. One of these options is the correct, best answer, and the other 4 are distractors. You should select the **best or most appropriate answer** for each question.

Each question is worth **one mark** and there is **no negative marking**.

Separately, a panel of examiners carries out a standard setting exercise to determine the difficulty and importance of each question. From this, a pass mark for each paper is calculated.

Because the questions in each Part 1 exam are different, the pass mark for each examination diet will be different. However, because the same process is used to determine the pass mark, the **standard** of each Part 1 exam is the same.

You must meet the pass mark in **both papers** to pass the Part 1.

How can I prepare for this exam?

You should ensure that you are familiar with all the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the *Safe Practitioner Framework* and are able to demonstrate these outcomes at the level of a safe day one BDS-qualified dentist.

You should make sure you are familiar the **LDS Syllabus** on our website, which shows which learning outcomes can be assessed in the Part 1. The exam will assess a range of these outcomes but may not assess every outcome.

You will also need to make sure you are familiar with **UK clinical guidelines** and standards to inform your clinical choices and practices. You will be required to have knowledge of **UK regulations and clinical guidelines** relevant to **safe clinical practice**.

Some **suggested reading** is provided at the end of this document.

LDS Suggested Reading

Topic	Title	Authors	Publisher
Oral Anatomy, Histology and Embryology	Oral Anatomy, Histo-logy and Embryology 4 th ed 2009	BKB Berkovitz, GR Holland, BJ Moxham	Mosby Year Book 9780723434115
	Anatomy of Orofacial Structures 7 th ed. 2003	RW Brand and DE Isselhard	Mosby Year Book 9780323019545
	Ten Cate's Oral Histology: Development, Structure and Function 7 th ed. 2008	Antonio Nanci	Mosby Elsevier 9780323045575
Human Health and Disease	Essentials of Microbiology for Dental Students 2 nd ed. 2005	J Bagg, TW MacFarlane, IR Poxton and AJ Smith	Oxford University Press 9780198564898
	Essential Microbiology for Dentistry 4 th ed. 2011	L. Samaranayake	Churchill Livingstone 9780702034848
Oral Pathology / Medicine / Microbiology	Cawson's Essentials of Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine 8 th ed. 2008	RA Cawson and EW Odell	Churchill Livingstone 9780443103650
	A clinical guide to oral medicine: the clinical guide series 3 rd ed. 2011	P-J Lamey and MAO Lewis	British Dental Association 9781907923036
	Oral Pathology 4 th Edition 2005	JV Soames and JC Southam	OUP 9780198527947
	Human Disease for Dentists 2004	DJ Gawkrödger (ed)	Blackwell 9780632064533
	Human Disease for Dentistry 2004	F Fortune	OUP 9780192631633

Topic	Title	Authors	Publisher
Periodontology	A Clinical Guide to Periodontology 2003	RM Palmer and PF Floyd	BDJ books 9780904588750
	Periodontics 6 th ed. 2010	B.M. Eley, M. Soory, J.D. Manson	Saunders Elsevier 9780702030659
Conservative Dentistry / Prosthodontics and Cariology	Pickard's Manual of Operative Dentistry 9 th ed. 2011	EAM Kidd, BGN Smith and TF Watson	Blackwell Munksgaard 9780199579150
	Essentials of Dental Caries 3rd ed. 2005	EAM Kidd	Blackwell Munksgaard 9780199579150
	Local Anaesthesia in Dentistry	JA Baart, HS Brand, (eds)	Wiley Blackwell 9781405184366
	Fundamentals of fixed prosthodontics	Herbert T Shillingburg	Chicago : Quintessence, c1997. 3 rd
	A clinical guide to removable partial denture design	John C. Davenport et al	British Dental Association, c2000
	A clinical guide to complete denture prosthetics	Fraser McCord, Alan A Grant	British Dental Association, c2000
	Applied occlusion	J Robert Wassel et al	British Dental Association, c2000
Dental materials	Introduction to Dental Materials 3 rd ed. 2009	R van Noort	Mosby Elsevier 9780723436003
	Applied Dental Materials 9th ed. 2008	J F McCabe and AWG Walls	Walls Blackwell Science 9781405139618

Topic	Title	Authors	Publisher
Law and ethics	Medicine Patients and the Law 5 th ed. 2011	M Brazier	Penguin 9780241952597
	Essential Skills for Dentists 2006	PA Mossey, GJ Holsgrove, DR Stirrups and ES Davenport	OUP 9780198526193
Communication Skills and Psychology	The Psychology of Dental Patient Care 2002	R Freeman	BDJ 0904588556
	Essential Skills for Dentists 2006	PA Mossey, GJ Holsgrove, DR Stirrups and ES Davenport	OUP 9780198526193
	Behavioral Dentistry 2006	D Mostofsky, A Forgiione, and D Giddon	Blackwell 9780813812137
Endodontology	Harty's Endodontics in Clinical Practice 6 th ed. 2010	FJ Harty	Churchill Livingstone 9780702031564
	Cohen's Pathways of the pulp 10 th ed.	K Hargreaves, S Cohen	Mosby 9780323064897
	Clinical Guide to Endodontics 3 rd ed. 2004	P Carotte	BDJ Books 9780904588835
	Endodontics in practice	C.J.R. Stock, C.F. Neehammer	British Dental Association, 1990. 2 nd ed.

Topic	Title	Authors	Publisher
Pharmacology	Rang and Dale's Pharmacology 7 th ed. 2011	2011 Rang and Dale	Churchill Livingstone 9780702034718
	Pharmacology Condensed 2 nd ed. 2008	MM Dale and GD Haylett	Churchill Livingstone 9780443067730
	Textbook of dental pharmacology and therapeutics	RA Seymour, JW Thompson, JG Walton	OUP, 1994. 2nd ed.
Preventive and Community Dentistry	The Prevention of Oral Disease 4 th ed. 2003	J Murray	OUP 9780192632791
	Treatment Planning In General Dental Practice 2003	CA Bain	Churchill Livingstone 9780443071837
	Promoting Health: A Practical Guide to Health Education 6 th ed. 2010	A Scriven	John Wiley and Sons Ltd 9780702044564
Children's dentistry	Paediatric Dentistry 3 rd ed. 2005	RR Welbury, MS Duggal and M-T Hosey	OUP 9780198565833
	Orthodontics and Paediatric Dentistry 2 nd ed. 2010	D Millet, R Welbury	Churchill Livingstone 9780702031243
Orthodontics	Handbook of orthodontics 2010	MT Cobourne, AT DiBiase Mosby	Elsevier 9780723434504

Topic	Title	Authors	Publisher
Oral Surgery	Master Dentistry Volume 1, 4th Edition Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Radiology, Pathology and Oral Medicine 2021	Paul Coulthard, Philip Sloan, Elizabeth D. Theaker, Anita Sengupta	Elsevier
	Core Oral Surgery for Dental Students Second Edition: Essential Knowledge for Qualifying Dental Examinations	Andrew Sadler, Edmund Bailey et al	Kindke Edition
	A Clinical Guide to Oral Surgery - Book 1 2013	T Renton & C M Hill	BDJ Books
	A Clinical Guide to Oral Surgery - Book 2 2017	T Renton & C M Hill	BDJ Books
	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery: An Illustrated Guide for Dental Students 31 Aug. 2024	Nabeela Ahmed, Rhea Chouhan, Robert Isaac	Allied Dental Professionals Paperback
	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery: An Illustrated Guide for Dental Students 31 Aug. 2024	Jonathan Pedlar (Editor), John W. Frame (Editor)	Churchill Livingstone
	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery: An Objective-Based Textbook 30 July 2007	Kathleen Fan, Judith Jones	PasTest
Children's dentistry	OSCEs for Dentistry 2013		
	Paediatric Dentistry 3 rd ed. 2005	RR Welbury, MS Duggal and M-T Hosey	OUP 9780198565833
	Orthodontics and Paediatric Dentistry 2 nd ed. 2010	D Millet, R Welbury	Churchill Livingstone 9780702031243

