

SAPC South East 2026 Conference Submission

Guidance and Information

We are inviting abstract, workshop and creative enquiry submissions for the Society for Academic Primary Care (SAPC) South East Conference at Madingley Hall, Cambridge, on 29-30 January 2026.

This year's conference theme is 'Advancing equity in primary care: building healthier communities together' and we particularly welcome submissions that map closely to our theme. However, submissions are welcome on any topic relating to research and educational activities in primary care both in the UK and internationally. Though, as this year's conference is an in-person event, we will not be accepting online submissions.

The deadline for all submissions is 8 November 2025.

Below you will find information regarding each submission type:

- Abstract
- Workshop
- Creative Enquiry

Abstracts

Abstracts are limited to 300 words excluding the title.

Please prepare your abstract under the following headings:

- The Problem
- The Approach
- Findings
- Implications/Potential impact

You will be asked to select whether you would like to be considered for an oral presentation, a poster presentation or either presentation type (and on acceptance you would be advised if you had been selected for an oral or poster presentation).

Oral presentations: 10 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for discussion.

Poster presentation guidance will be sent out after acceptance.

Workshops

Workshops offer a 1 hour slot to bring people together with shared interests to explore a topic in greater depth. Workshops may have an educational, research or practice-based theme. We welcome innovative topics and formats for workshops.

Maximum word count for workshop proposals is 500 words excluding the title. Please prepare your proposal under the following headings:

- Aim and intended outcomes/educational objectives
- Format
- Content
- Intended audience

You will also be asked to indicate any audio-visual requirements and seating arrangements on the submission form.

Creative Enquiry Submissions

Creative enquiry submissions can use any creative medium for the presentation, for example: music, dance, monologue, painting, photography, prose, poetry, and sculpture. This list is not exhaustive, and any creative medium can be used.

We ask that you submit your piece in advance via the submission form (unless prior submission is not applicable e.g. if your piece is a performance).

There will be 10 minutes to present your creative enquiry piece at the conference, followed by 5 minutes for questions.

On the submission form you will also be asked to complete the following sections:

- Title of the piece
- Name/pseudonym for the author/creator of the piece
- Reflection on the creative piece of up to 500 words

Abstract review criteria

Peer reviewers will be asked to assess the soundness of your scholarship and the extent to which your abstract aligns with the conference themes and aims.

Soundness of the scholarship

The following areas will be considered by reviewers when scoring presentation abstracts for oral and poster submissions:

- 1) Importance of the problem or topic
 - Is the problem (or topic area) original/important/relevant to academic primary care?
 - Are the aims of the study clearly described?
- 2) The approach (design/methods)
 - Is the study design appropriate for the stated research question(s) and aims?
 - Are the methods/ methodological approach clearly described?
 - What is the overall quality of the study methods employed (or proposed)?
- 3) Findings
 - Are the key findings clearly described?
 - How confident is the reviewer in the strength/trustworthiness of the findings and/or conclusions/discussion presented? (For work in progress reviewers will be asked to assess the quality of the conclusion and/or discussion, taking into account interim findings/conclusions and how well the author describes plans for progressing the research)
- 4) Implications/Potential impact
 - How important are these research findings?
 - How and to what extent are the findings likely to influence clinical or research practice, education or policy? (For work in progress reviewers will be asked to consider the potential of the project to influence clinical or research practice, education or policy)

Peer review process

All submitted abstracts will be reviewed independently by at least two peer reviewers. The aim of this process is to ensure a high-quality programme of presentations and a lively, informative meeting. We welcome interesting, well designed and well conducted work at all stages of development / delivery and will give equivalent weight to abstracts relating to work-in-progress and completed work. The main focus of our peer review process is the extent to which submissions meet the criteria for quality, relevance and importance.

Reviewers will be asked to mark abstracts using the full range of scores stated for each of the criteria. Each criterion has a score range with 1 being the lowest, and higher scores representing higher quality abstracts (e.g. 1=poor, 5=excellent).

A high scoring abstract will:

- identify an important problem (one which responds to a clear gap in the literature; a practice or policy priority; a topic which is fundamental to primary care)
- describe a clear research question and aim
- set out an appropriate study design which is capable of meeting the stated aims
- offer a clear description of methods and methodological approach
- include findings which are trustworthy, or - for work in progress - a compelling conclusion and/or discussion which justifies the approach being taken in the ongoing research

A lower scoring abstract is likely to include less focused research that is not highly relevant to primary care or which is not well presented or executed.