



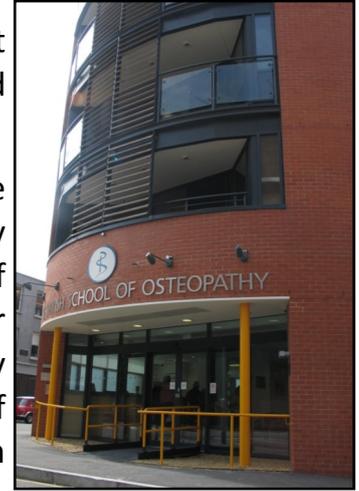
# THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHY

## *Community Partnerships*

### ***Introduction to the BSO***

The British School of Osteopathy (BSO) is the largest and the oldest osteopathic school in the UK. We 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. We have the largest osteopathic clinic in Europe, which supports the community in which we operate and the students we educate. The cost of treatment in the clinics is significantly subsidised or, in the case of our community clinics, free to the patient. The School's educational activity first gained recognition by the General Council and Register of Osteopaths in 1938. HRH The Princess Royal became our Patron in 1984, demonstrating her confidence in the profession and the BSO.



The BSO plays a fundamental role in the development of the osteopathic profession, training leaders in the field, conducting research and setting new standards. For example, several of our senior academics sit on General Osteopathic Council committees covering education, research, continuous professional development and regulation.

### ***BSO Clinics***

The BSO's Clinics provide affordable osteopathic treatment combined with the highest standards of patient care. Our Clinics are staffed by experienced osteopaths and supervised students. Osteopathy works on the muscles, joints and nervous system as well as evaluating other relevant physical structures where necessary. It treats the body as a whole unit and considers many aspects of the patient's life.

In 2008 we moved to a new clinical centre in Southwark. It is the largest in Europe, and offers a fully accessible, ground floor location and 34 modern, climate-controlled treatment rooms. The BSO clinic provides over 40,000 patient consultations a year across a variety of in-house and community based clinics. From our main Southwark Bridge Road centre we run a General Clinic, Children's Clinic, an Expectant Mothers' Clinic, a Sports Clinic and a Clinic for patients with HIV/AIDS. Patients may opt to attend any of these independently, or may be referred by their GP. There are also 5 community based clinics offering osteopathy to specific groups such as visitors to the Manna Centre for the homeless and the Royal Free Hospital for patients living with HIV and AIDS.





## ***The Community Partnership Scheme***

In 2009, we introduced a community partnership scheme with the following aims:

- to provide reduced fee treatments for groups, organisations or businesses
- to increase community awareness with regard to the work and services of the school
- to develop some form of reciprocal relationships with groups, organisations or businesses that benefits both partners.

We are offering our partners the chance to attend appointments at our clinic for approximately 25% less than the standard rate, which is a significant saving. From 1<sup>st</sup> August 2014, our appointments are charged at £24 per session – for our partners this is reduced to only £18.

There is **no cost to any partner** if you enter into this agreement and there is **no minimum commitment** with regard to the referral of patients to the clinic.

This partnership offers you the opportunity to support the wellbeing and health of your members or employees. You can provide them with the chance to access high quality osteopathic care at a rate significantly below that charged by other private osteopathic practices.

In order to identify which patients are members of our scheme, we ask that you bring your staff ID card along to your appointment. However, if your company or organisation does not have these then we are always happy to come to another arrangement, such as using a headed letter that states your membership or employment.

Each agreement is based on the BSO providing reduced fee consultations whilst being able to promote our service to the partner organization in a variety of ways, including through the provision of leaflets and posters etc. or through the delivery of talks and demonstrations where appropriate. In other partnerships, we have negotiated discounts so that we can benefit in other ways – for example, with the Aya Theatre Company students and staff are entitled to a 25% discount on their production ticket prices.

Currently we have a broad range of organisations signed up to the partnership including the Young Vic, Carers Hub Lambeth and Southwark Council to name a few.

Please visit our [website](#) to learn more about osteopathy and what it can help you with.

If you are interested in this scheme and want to discuss it further, contact Sarah McLaughlin today via [s.mclaughlin@bso.ac.uk](mailto:s.mclaughlin@bso.ac.uk) or on 020 7089 5352.

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