Appendix: Interview schedules for BBT trainees (year 1, year 2 & post-BBT)

BBT Interview questions (year 1)

1. Why did you decide to apply for BBT?
   
   *(Possible prompts)*
   
   BBT offers trainees a firm broad foundation in four specialties with direct entry into year 2 of any of these four specialties. This means extending training by one year. What are the pros and cons of this for you?

2. What has your experience of the programme been like so far?
   
   *(Possible prompts)*
   
   What has the teaching been like? What has your supervision been like? Do you feel that there are particular skills that BBT is helping you to develop?

3. Challenges and advantages
   
   *(Possible prompts)*
   
   Are you treated differently from core specialty trainees (pros and cons)? Has there been anything better than standard programmes? Are there more options/freedom to develop your own training than in other training programs? Have you experienced any lack of understanding about the programme from colleagues? Have you had any issues acquiring required competencies? What do you think about the combination of specialties? How is the 10% time in a different specialty working out? Do you think there is greater career flexibility? Without BBT do you think you would now be in a dedicated training program? If BBT didn’t exist, what would you be doing just now?

4. What would you say to someone considering BBT?

5. What medical career do you want to pursue?
   
   *(Possible prompts)*
   
   Explore how this relates to choosing BBT rather than conventional training? Do you have any anxieties about being a BBT trainee? What are your goals from BBT?
BBT Interview questions (year 2)

1. **Now that you are mid-way through the second year of BBT, can you describe how your training has been going?**
   
   Any comments about teaching in your current/previous specialty?
   Any comments about supervision in your current/previous specialty?
   Any comments comparing the specialties you have experienced?

   What has the core BBT teaching been like?
   What aspects have been the most useful (anything not useful?)
   Are you taught with the new BBT cohort? (buddying? Do you see much of BBT1s?)

   Any problems acquiring required competencies?
   Have you been ‘topping up’ your skills for your desired specialty?

2. **How has the 10% time been working out in your current specialty?**
   Can you describe some of the things you have been doing with the 10% time?

3. **Do you feel that understanding of BBT as a programme is better compared to when you started?**

   Do you feel more integrated/understood now?
   Do you feel you are treated differently/the same as conventional trainees?
   Do you feel part of a BBT group? (Or isolated from other BBT trainees?)

4. **What specialty have you decided on?**

   Has the extra time in BBT been useful in enabling you to choose a specialist training program?

   How did your BBT experiences influence your decision?
   Have you changed your mind compared to when you started out on BBT?

   Do you have any concerns about embarking upon your chosen specialty in August?

5. **Are you still glad that you chose BBT/any regrets?**

6. **What’s been the best thing about BBT?**

7. **Do you feel your BBT training has allowed you to develop skills that other ‘conventional’ trainees might not have?**

8. **Tell me about the detail of the specialty course you are starting in August (e.g. location, rotations). Is it exactly what you wanted?**
BBT Interview questions (chosen specialty – year 3)

1. **Now that you are in your chosen specialty (establish what that is), can you describe how your training has been going?**
   
   Is the training programme you are on what you hoped for?  
   Did you experience any difficulties in making the transition to CT2/ST2?

2. **How well do you feel that your BBT training prepared you?**
   
   Do you feel at the same level of competence/experience as trainees who took a more conventional route?
   
   - **Comparing yourself to colleagues who have taken a more traditional route, do you feel as confident or more confident at managing patients?**
   - **Have there been any particular areas of clinical experience where you felt less confident than conventional trainees?**
   - **What about exams – have you been able to get to the same stage as your colleagues?**

   Do you feel there are any differences between you and trainees who have taken a more conventional route in this specialty?

   Do you feel that doing the four BBT specialties has given you any advantages compared to traditional trainees? *(Cardiff study suggested more holistic approach to patient care, p.23).*

   Are there any particular aspects of your BBT training that you feel you have been able to bring to your final specialty?

3. **What about your eportfolio? Have there been any issues with incorporating your BBT eportfolio into your current portfolio?**

4. **Do you feel content with your specialty choice?**

5. **Looking back on the BBT programme, are there any changes/improvements you would make to the way it operates?**

6. **Are you glad that you chose BBT?**

7. **Anything else you would like to say about BBT at all?**