

Establishing Primary Care Network Placements in a new medical school

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Kent and Medway Medical School (KMMS)

KMMS is one of five new medical schools established to support the expansion of the workforce. The school opened in September 2020 with a first cohort of 108 students.

The KMMS is a joint venture between Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) and the University of Kent. As a new medical school, it is partnered with Brighton and Sussex Medical School



* Disclaimer: KMMS is a new medical school and the BM BS programme is subject to successful progress through the General Medical Council's quality assurance programme.

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KMMS Mission is to:

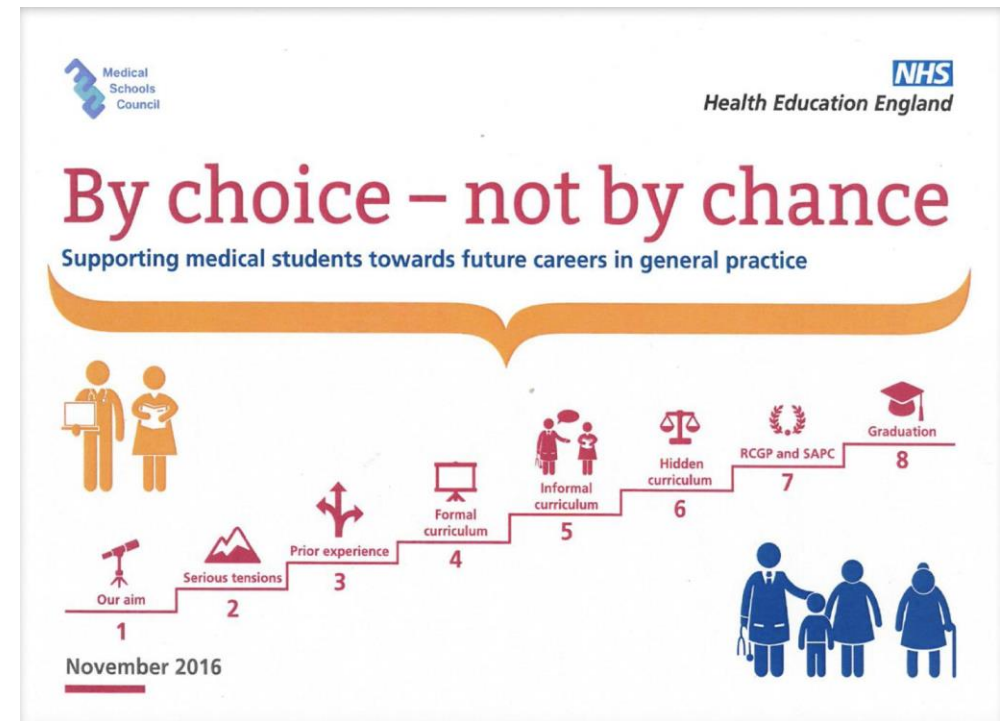
- widen participation in medicine
- address significant health inequalities in Kent and Medway
- provide high-quality placements
- ensure that all our students have significant exposure to primary care, mental health and acute medicine
- have an innovative curriculum



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Background

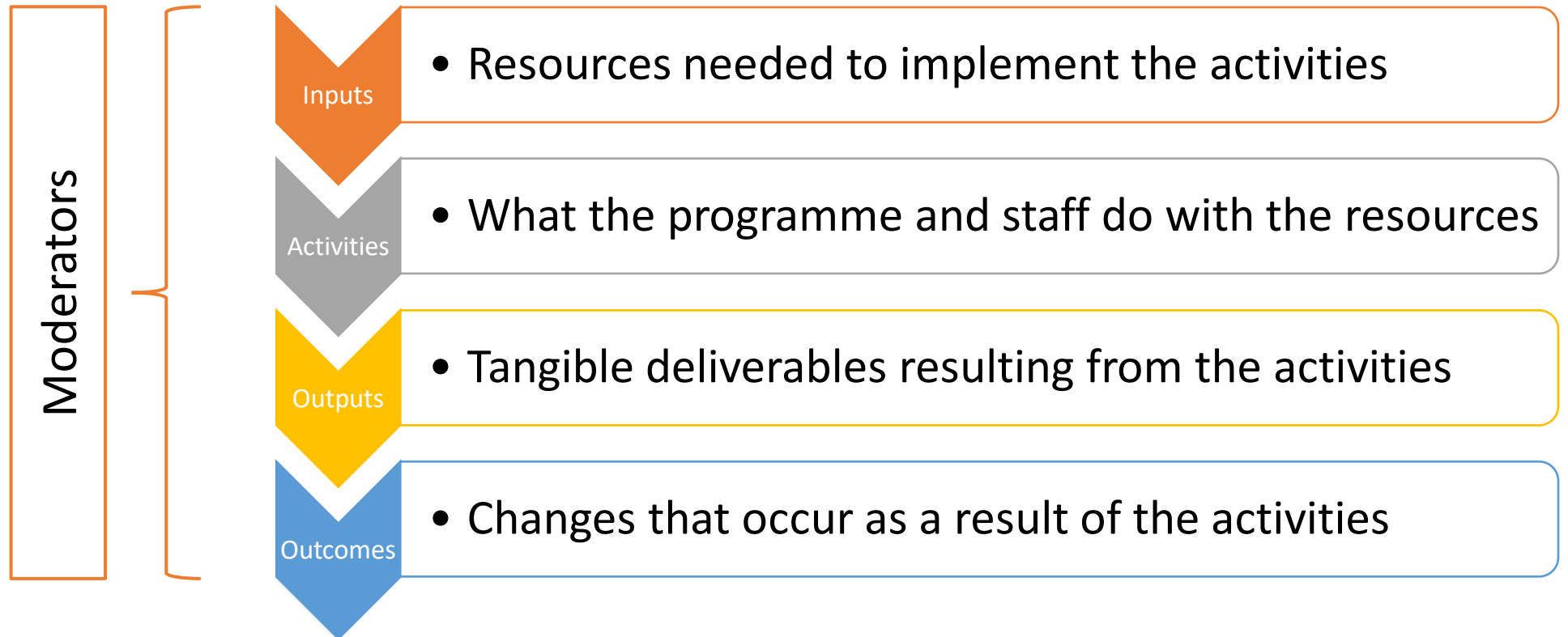
The KMMS programme features early clinical placements in the community, starting with six weeks in year one. These are structured as immersion weeks based in Primary Care Networks (PCNs). Over the course of the five-year programme, 28 weeks are in primary care placements



Policy drivers to support recruitment to General Practice

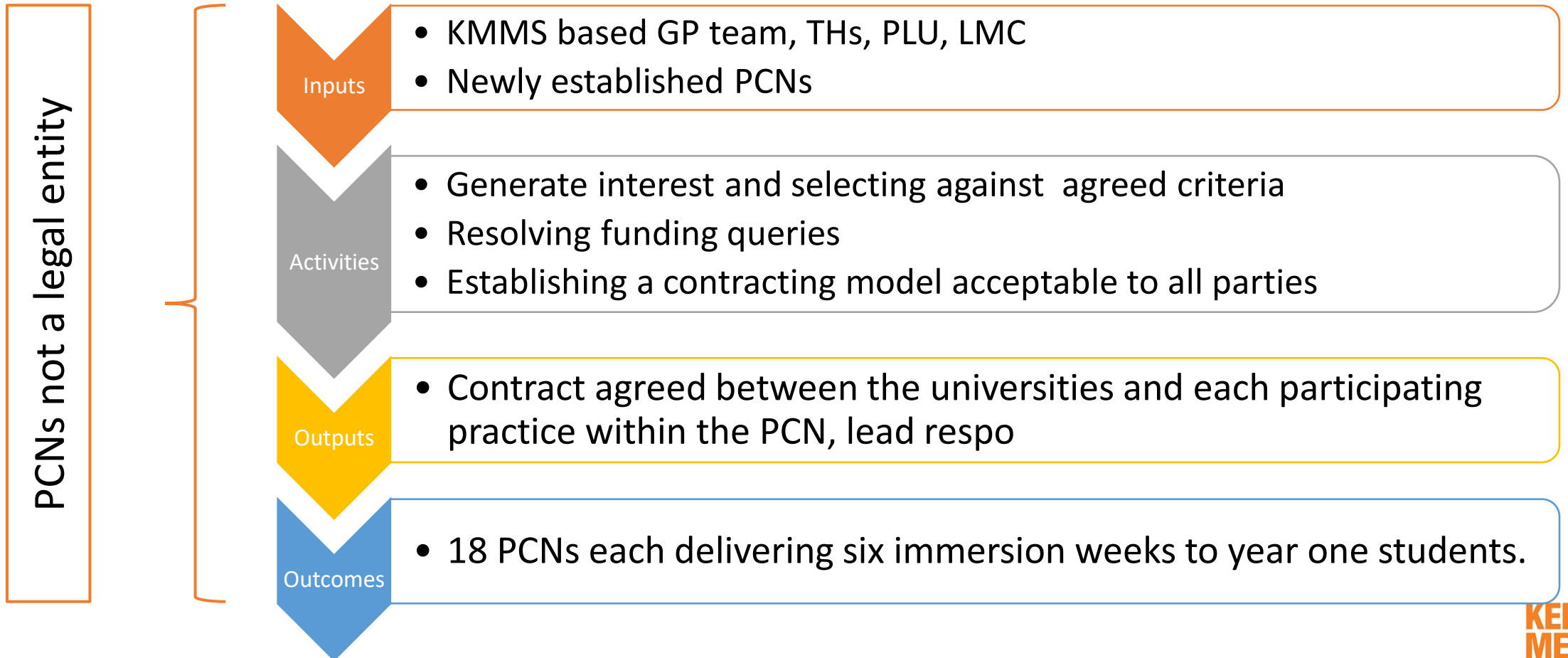
- GMC outcomes for Graduates 2018
- Wass report 2016

Evaluation of the KMMS Year 1 Primary Care Placements

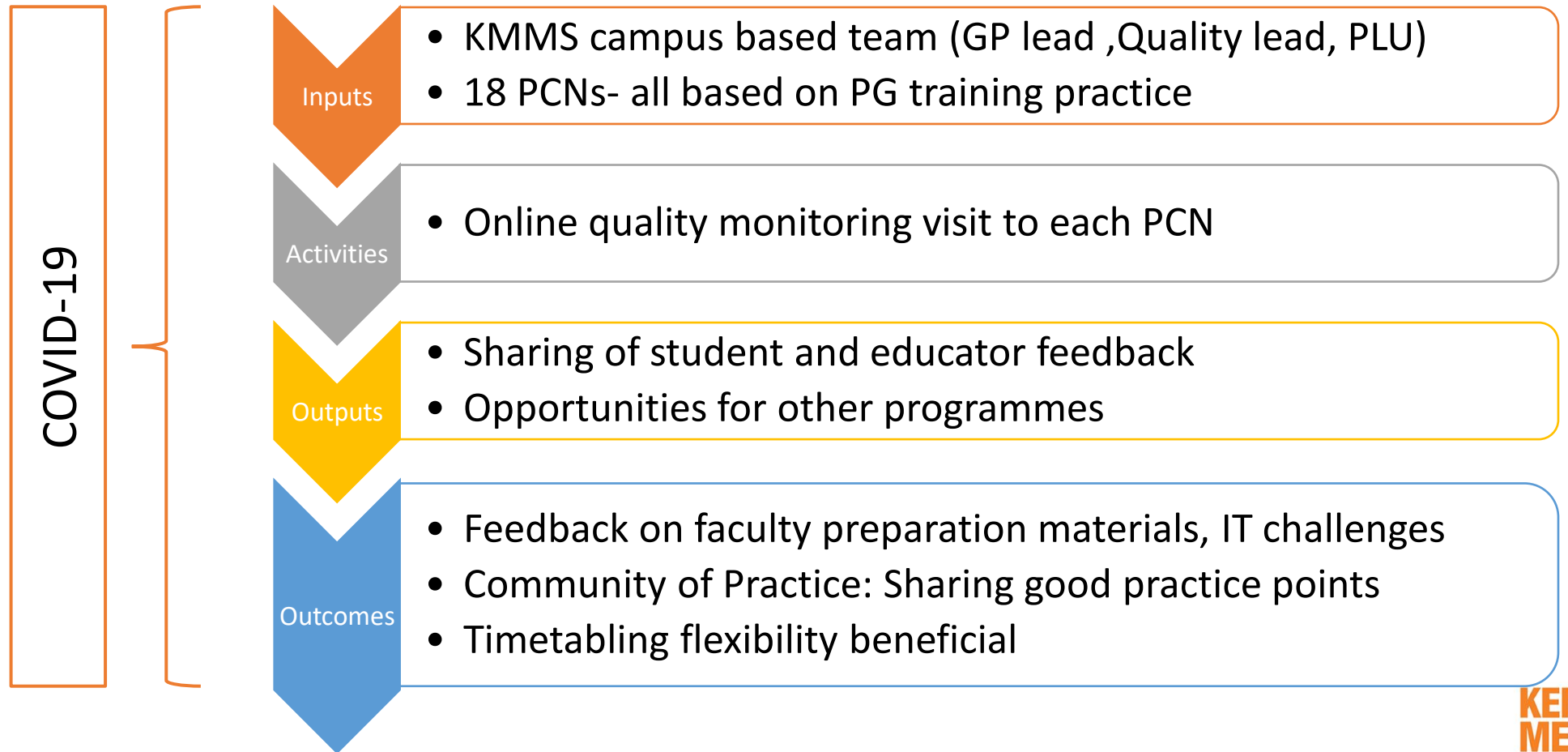


Stakeholder involvement: Training hubs, Local Medical Committee, Practice Learning Unit, PCNs, Community providers, Students

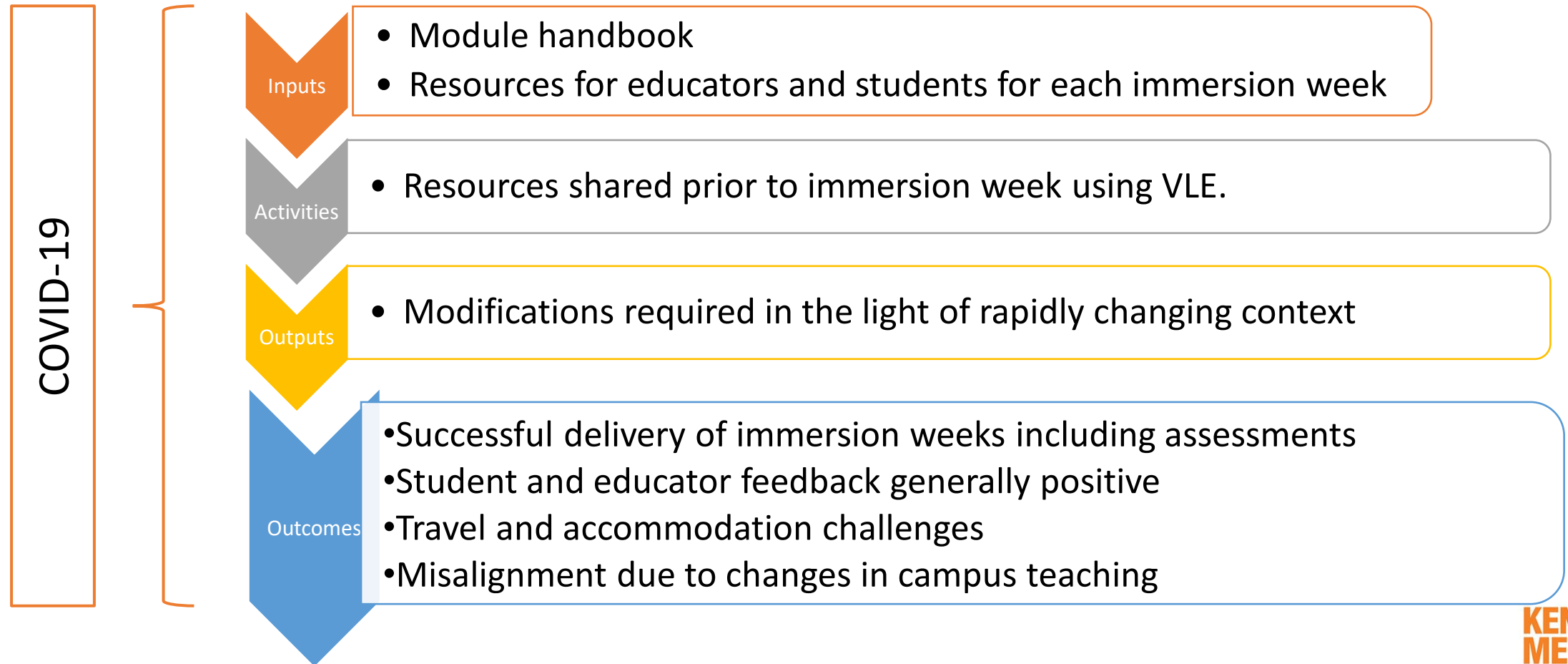
Setting up the PCN placements



PCN contract monitoring



Immersion week delivery of KMMS year 1 Primary Care Placements



Impact of Covid 19



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Discussion

- PCN placements offer unique learning environment including early exposure to clinical practice and also to multi-disciplinary working but with legal complexity
- Timetabling Tension Early exposure to clinical practice vs need for OH clearance and placement allocation
- Placements across the whole of Kent and Medway pose logistic challenges for short immersion week placements
- COVID has provided unexpected challenges as well as learning opportunities related to MDT working and communication skills

Implications

With a move to place based learning across networks, learning about contracting and quality assurance models may be transferable to other settings.