

Senior Lecturer in Sport and Exercise Science

ROWETT INSTITUTE, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MEDICAL SCIENCES & NUTRITION

Closing date: **10 January 2023**

Interview date: **To Be Confirmed**

Reference number: **ROW104A**



INTRODUCTION

This is an exciting opportunity to join a dynamic School whose undergraduate portfolio comprises undergraduate degrees in medicine, nutrition, dentistry, physician associate and a wide variety of successful BSc programmes in medical sciences. Within this portfolio, our three programmes in Sports and Exercise Science and Exercise and Health (Sport and Exercise Science, Exercise and Health Science and Applied Sport Science) have been the most popular amongst our BSc programmes and have played a major role in bringing students to Aberdeen. We are proud of this pedigree and wish to extend the offering to include courses involving exercise and nutrition, and also expand our teaching to include MSc level courses to some of the relevant programmes within the school. This is also an area we wish to expand our research capabilities, particularly concerning how combined exercise and nutrition interventions can improve the health of the population or specific patient groups. This post is also consistent with our investment in excellent sporting facilities, the emphasis on health and wellbeing in the way we treat staff and students and in the sporting prowess of our student population.

We wish to recruit a Senior Lecturer to contribute to our Sports and Exercise Science programmes, who will help us diversify our portfolio and maintain and grow our buoyant numbers of applicants and students, as well as expand our research activities and provide leadership in nutrition and physiology to improve human health. They will join the Rowett Institute, a world class centre for research into food science and nutrition as well work closely with colleagues across the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition (MMSN) which includes medical scientists, healthcare individuals and clinicians.

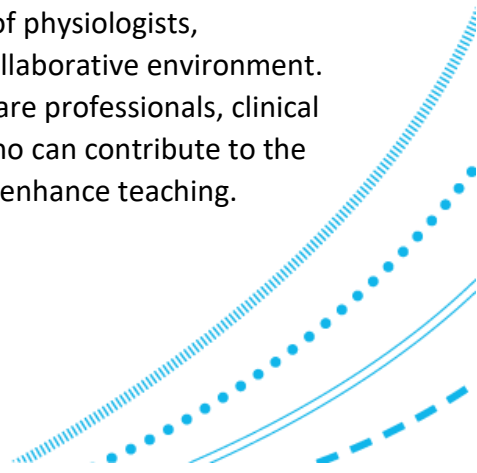
In return, we can offer the following:

Access to world class nutrition research facilities within the Rowett Institute and the School of MMSN, including dedicated lab space and access to the human nutrition unit, analytical core, proteomics and genomics. There is commitment to further equipment investment associated with this post. Technical support is also budgeted.

Access to excellent facilities in the Aberdeen Sports Village (ASV)

(<http://www.aberdeensportsvillage.com/>), Aquatic Centre and extensive sports fields for students and staff alike. (All staff get automatic free membership (off peak) of these facilities.)

The role will involve collaborating with a team of dedicated Sports and Exercise Science academic staff and providing leadership in expanding our research capabilities in Sports and Exercise Science and Nutrition. This research and teaching takes place within a much bigger group of physiologists, nutritional scientists and biomedical scientists, all of whom work in a highly collaborative environment. In addition, on the Foresterhill site there is a multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals, clinical staff and academics, and specialists in nutrition and health services experts who can contribute to the teaching programmes. The University also has a new Science Teaching Hub to enhance teaching.



Excellent partnership opportunities with NHS Grampian whose staff and hospitals are co-located with the School on the shared site at Foresterhill, one of the largest healthcare campuses in Europe.

Collaborations from the ASV staff who host projects and contribute to applied teaching.

The opportunity to lead the recruitment of a Lecturer (Research and Scholarship) post to enhance and broaden the research and teaching into Sport and Exercise Science

The school boasts the following purpose built facilities:

- Dedicated exercise physiology and biochemistry laboratories within the human nutrition unit at the Rowett Institute.
- A nutrition research kitchen within the Human Nutrition Unit to aid in nutritional interventions
- A range of facilities: such as DEXA and BodPod for body composition, breath analysis and stable isotope analysis for energy expenditure, blood plasma analysis, mass spectrometry for metabolomics and proteomics.
- Exercise bikes and the potential to augment the exercise equipment in the future.
- Access to excellent science and clinical imaging and analytical facilities on campus.
- A wide range of core facilities across the medical campus, including histology, microscopy, and genomics.

The University also has excellent links with the National Hyperbaric Centre in Aberdeen which is also found on the Foresterhill site.

JOB DESCRIPTION

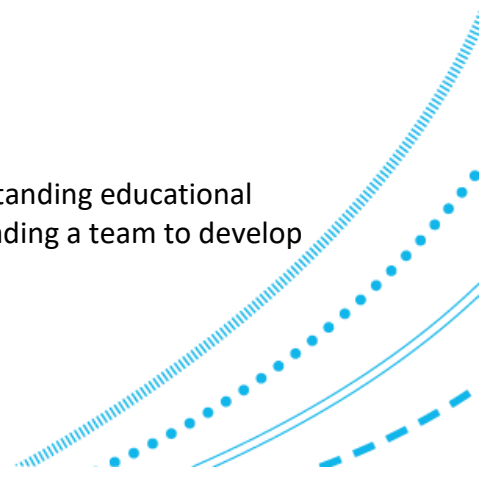
MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The postholder will lead a research team focused on an area of sport and exercise science. In particular, we would encourage researchers with an interest in exercise physiology, nutrition and their application to improve human health. S/he will support their research by applying for competitive funding from UKRI research councils, the NHS and charities.

The person appointed will contribute to the undergraduate teaching programmes for Sport and Exercise Science. S/he will coordinate the addition of new undergraduate programmes and courses to ensure the competitiveness and attraction of the current portfolio and in time expand the offering to Masters Level, possibly online. We would also encourage the development of CPD courses to augment courses within nutrition and applied health.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

This is an academic research and scholarship post focussed on delivering outstanding educational programmes in the field of Sport and Exercise Science and conducting and leading a team to develop world class research into Sport and Exercise Science.



The purpose of this post will be to deliver approximately 50% each of research and teaching activities and help, and time will be allocated to allow both activities.

Teaching

- To lead the development of new courses in applied sports science to expand the current portfolio.
- To lead the development of new taught masters' sports related programmes, reflecting the expertise available within the school; these may be online.
- To lead colleagues to help deliver an exceptional learning environment for students.
- To maintain through continuous review and development vibrant, high quality courses and programmes and to review and change as needed, in terms of content, delivery and assessment.
- To deliver teaching and practical research projects to undergraduate and postgraduate students, and to conduct associated assessments.
- To provide academic and pastoral support to undergraduate and postgraduate students (for example as a personal tutor).
- To promote the use of a range of methods and techniques in teaching, learning and assessment.

Research

- Build a funded programme of independent research in sport and exercise and/or nutrition
- Provide leadership in the development of research into sport, exercise and nutrition.
- Publish research in high quality and high impact journals
- Win external, peer reviewed grants
- Provide research leadership to own research group, academic colleagues and collaborate across the School's portfolio of research

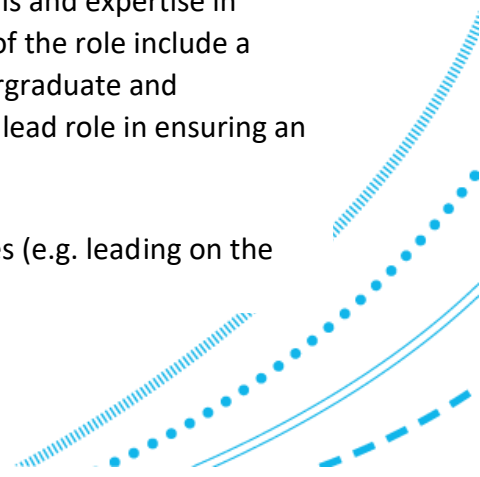
Enterprise

- To engage with local and national sporting bodies, business, public and voluntary organisations through knowledge exchange activities such as student projects and placements, research collaboration, consultancy and specialist training.
- To horizon scan the external environment to ensure opportunities are identified and taken up, as relevant.
- To secure external funding in support of these activities and enterprises.

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

We wish to recruit a candidate with a PhD in a relevant area together with skills and expertise in Exercise Physiology, Nutrition, physiology or Sports Nutrition. Requirements of the role include a strong track record in research and experience of curriculum delivery at undergraduate and postgraduate level, of running programmes and student projects and taking a lead role in ensuring an excellent student experience.

Ability and readiness to take on leadership roles within the Sports programmes (e.g. leading on the development of a future MSc or CPD course).



Candidates will be able to establish and maintain effective working relationships with academic staff and students in the School, with staff from our sports facilities, with healthcare professionals where appropriate and to network with other professionals in the field, locally and nationally.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 8, £54,949 - £61,823 and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and probation period

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

This role is based in the UK and as such the successful candidate will be required to live and work in the UK.

Should you require a visa to undertake employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship under the requirements of the Skilled Worker visa. At the time an offer of appointment is made, you will be asked to demonstrate that you fulfil the criteria in respect of qualification and competency in English. For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. Please do not hesitate to contact Grant Rae, HR Adviser (e-mail: grant.rae@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:

Grade 8
£54,949 - £61,823

HOURS OF WORK:

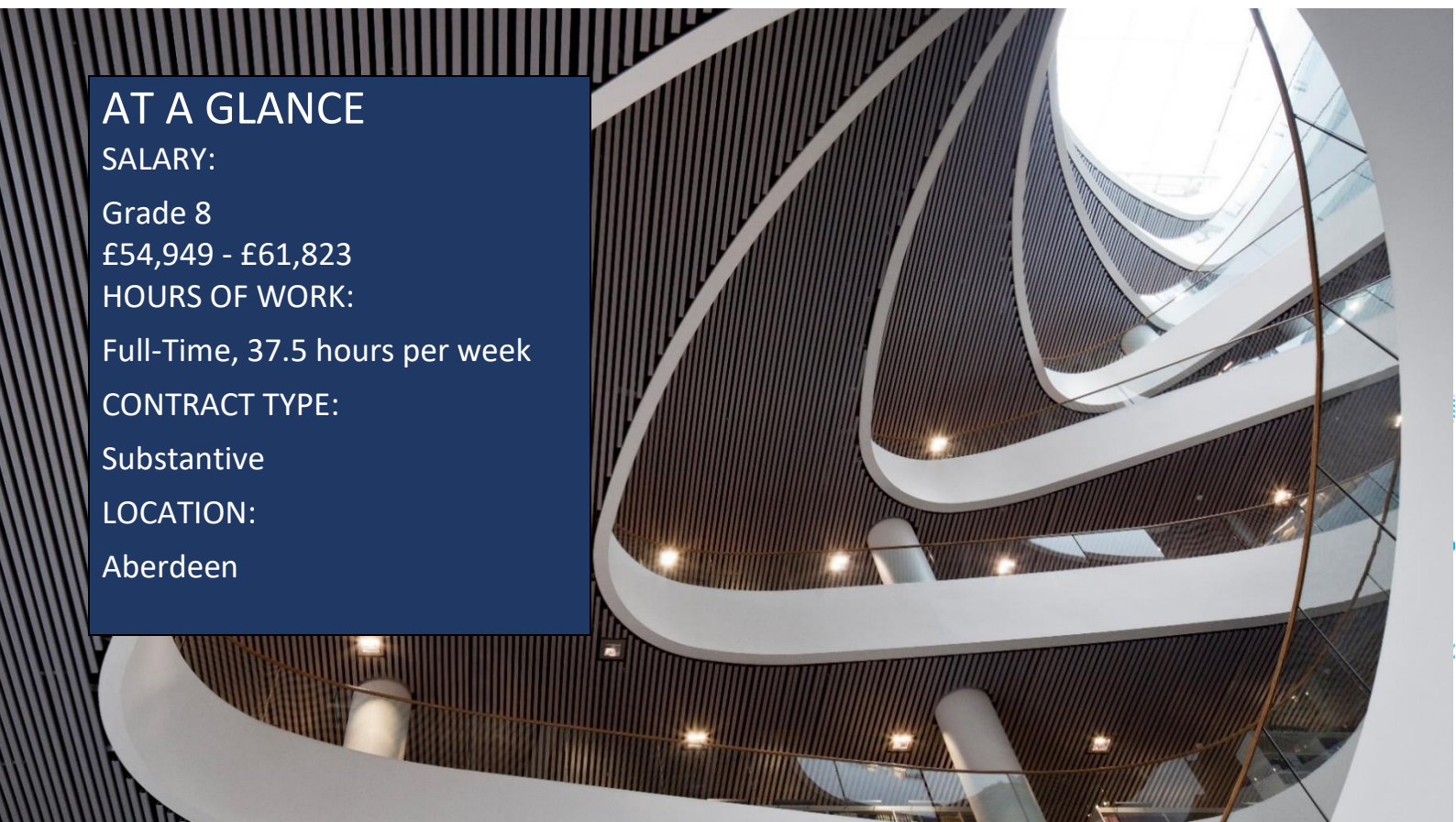
Full-Time, 37.5 hours per week

CONTRACT TYPE:

Substantive

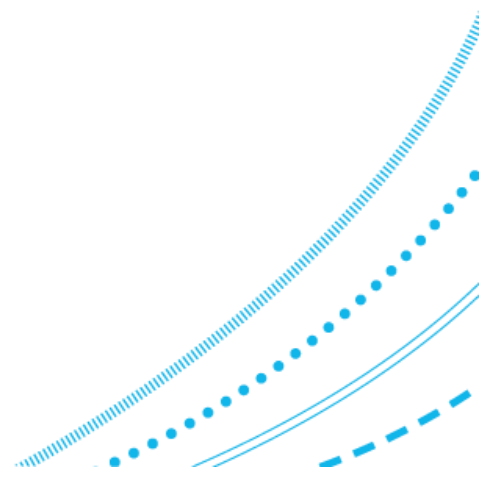
LOCATION:

Aberdeen



PERSON SPECIFICATION

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in an area relevant to Sports and Exercise Science and/or Nutrition • Expertise in Exercise Physiology, Biomechanics, Sports Psychology, or Sports Nutrition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate education qualification (e.g. Certificate / Diploma / Masters) or accreditation such as FHA. • Experience of developing and delivering online learning • Leadership training
Work and Other relevant experience (including training) e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in a field of sport and exercise research and/or nutrition relevant to the core research strengths of the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition. • A developing reputation in their field of research commensurate with career stage • A record in attracting research funding commensurate with career stage • Ability to make collaborative research links including with NHS colleagues • Evidence of research output in the form of high-quality peer reviewed publications commensurate with career stage and indicative of a trajectory of growing achievement. Leadership in student development, and provision of pastoral and academic support • Able to demonstrate enthusiasm for the teaching and assessment of students • Relevant research expertise and experience delivering practical student research projects and supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of significant experience of curriculum and assessment development and planning • Experience of course co-ordination and / or curriculum management



Personal qualities and abilities

e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills

ESSENTIAL

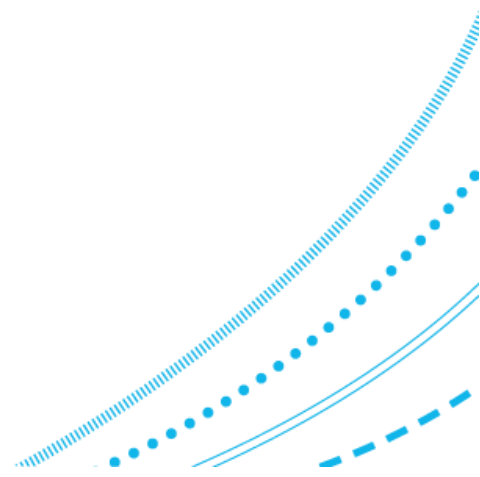
- Evidence of supervising junior staff
- Evidence of excellent leadership and team working skills
- Evidence of excellent skills in organisation and building networks both within and across organisations
- Evidence of excellent interpersonal / communication skills
- Evidence of research innovation.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Proven organisational abilities, including evidence of effective time-management and negotiating skills.

DESIRABLE

- Former line management duties

Other

e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.



UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others

The University of Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, and we put students at the centre of everything we do. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen is credited for its international reach and commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies. The University has over 16,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation, and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges and inspires.



CURRENT CONTEXT

The University continues to uphold the principals of the foundational purpose. We remain committed to delivering positive change both locally and globally. We work together and with our partners in an interdisciplinary way, catalysing world-leading research in our areas of strength: Energy Transition; Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity; Environment and Biodiversity; Data and Artificial Intelligence; and Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing. We are investing in our future and have committed £100m to upgrading our campus, including the new fully digitised Science Teaching Hub, the regeneration of the historic King's Quarter and a new Business School building. Our commitment to our students, campus and community has led to us being named a Top 20 UK institution in two major league tables¹ and 4th in the UK for overall student satisfaction².

¹ The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023 and the Guardian University Guide 2023

² National Student Survey (NSS) 2022

ABERDEEN 2040

On our 525th anniversary as a University we launched [Aberdeen 2040](#), our strategic vision for the next 20 years. Four strategic themes will shape our learning and discovery, underlined by 20 commitments we have made against each theme:

- **Inclusive**
We welcome students, staff and partners from all backgrounds, organisations and communities. We value diversity.
- **Interdisciplinary**
We innovate in education and research by generating, sharing and applying new kinds of knowledge. We learn together.
- **International**
We connect with others and extend our networks and partnerships around the world. We think across borders.
- **Sustainable**
We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and finances.

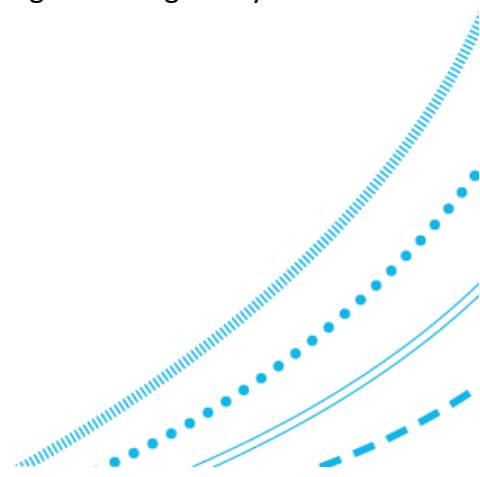
We work responsibly.

OUR EDUCATION

Recognised as the Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, we remain true to our roots as an ancient Scottish university, combining breadth and depth in our degree programmes and drawing strength from the quality of our research. Our flexible curriculum encourages students to grow as independent learners and therefore to thrive as graduates in the diverse workplaces of the future. Our education is open to all and we are setting ambitious targets to further widen access.

OUR RESEARCH

Researchers at the University of Aberdeen have been at the forefront of innovation and excellence throughout the centuries, generating insights in medicine, science, engineering, law, social sciences, arts and humanities. This research has contributed to five Nobel prizes as well as other awards such as the Queen's Anniversary prize. Our research is intellectually rigorous working within our established areas of excellence as well as new methods of enquiry. We will continue to generate new knowledge addressing economic and societal issues with ambition and imagination, ensuring that it is globally excellent and locally relevant.





INTERNATIONAL

Aberdeen is increasing its international presence, positioning the University as a global organisation and building on established global partnerships around the world, including Qatar, China, North America, Europe. We feature in the top 50 institutions worldwide for international students³.

IMPACT

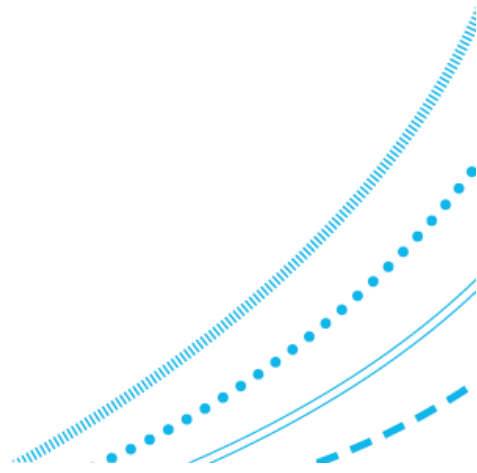
In 2020 the University signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals accord, solidifying our commitment to developing the world in a sustainable way. In 2022 we were listed in the global Top 100 for 8 of these goals⁴.

Our highly cited work in zero-carbon technology and global outlooks makes us Scotland's best institution for environmental research⁵.

³ Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021

⁴ Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022

⁵ QS World University Rankings 2022



THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MEDICAL SCIENCES AND NUTRITION

The School (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/smmsn/index.php>) encompasses all of the disciplines that underpin today's medicine, including biomedical sciences, health sciences, nutrition and medical, medical science and dental education and these are organised into five Institutes. The largest school in the University, the SMMSN has five Institutes: the Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS), the Institute of Applied Health Sciences (IAHS), the Rowett Institute, the Institute of Education in Healthcare and Medical Sciences (IEHMS) and the Institute of Dentistry, comprising all of our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and our own graduate entry Dental School.

Staff are line managed and research opportunities are supported through our institutes which work together in an integrated and coordinated way to deliver research and teaching across the School, details of which can be found on their websites as below.

- The Institute of Applied Health Sciences <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/iahs/>
- The Institute of Medical Sciences <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/ims/>
- The Rowett Institute <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/rowett/>
- The Institute of Education in Healthcare and Medical Sciences <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/IEHMS/>
- The Institute of Dentistry <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/dental/>

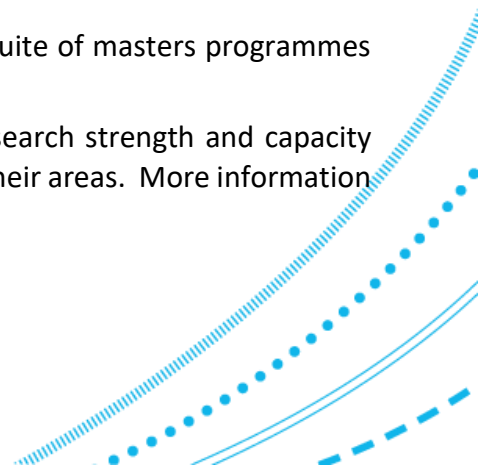
Within the IMS, our scientists are working towards the creation of effective therapies for patients with a range of debilitating and life-threatening conditions. Current research areas include: arthritis and musculoskeletal medicine; cell developmental and cancer biology; immunity, infection and inflammation; metabolic and cardiovascular health; microbiology and translational neuroscience.

Within the IAHS, research is focused on improving health and health care delivery. It is home to a multidisciplinary grouping of around 100 university academic staff who conduct population and clinically-orientated health research and hosts the Health Services Research Unit (HSRU) and Health Economics Research Unit (HERU), both funded by the Chief Scientist's Office (CSO) of the Scottish Government.

As well as being the organisational home to the teaching scholarship staff and responsible for oversight of the UG and PGT programmes offered by the School, the IEHMS promotes and supports excellence in medical education through research and development, with a focus on conceptually and theoretically robust research and development which has strong potential for reaching international recognition. The highly regarded University of Aberdeen MBChB programme and several postgraduate programmes including a Masters in Clinical Education are delivered by IEHMS.

The Dental Institute runs an undergraduate BDS programme and a growing suite of masters programmes for professional development.

We have a number of specialist Centres representing areas of particular research strength and capacity within the School all of which are willing to support colleagues on projects in their areas. More information is available at the following websites.

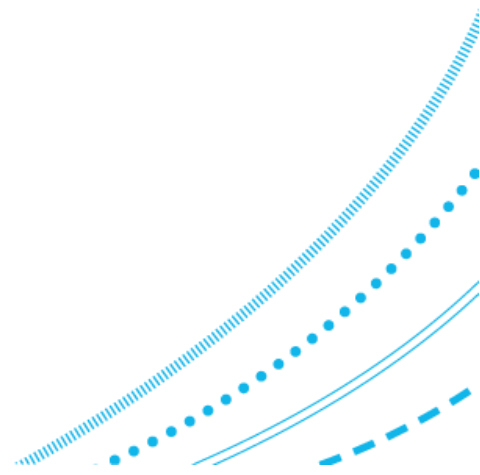


- The Centre for Healthcare Education Research and Innovation (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/cheri/>)
- The Centre for Health Data Science (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/achds/>)
- The Aberdeen Cardiovascular & Diabetes Centre (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/acdc/>) and
- The Aberdeen Centre for Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Health (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/acamh/>)

The School is home to over 800 staff and 2000fte students. It is located on the Foresterhill site, shared with our main clinical partner, NHS Grampian, with whom we work in close collaboration at primary and secondary care levels.

This is one of the largest integrated healthcare delivery, training and research sites in Europe and has rich assets including state-of-the-art academic (research and teaching) and clinical buildings. Excellent infrastructure is also provided through core facilities for biomedical science including flow cytometry, proteomics, microscopy and genome sequencing, support for data health science projects and clinical trials.

The last major academic capital development was the opening of the Rowett Institute, occupied in March 2016, whose staff undertakes nutrition research to help improve people's lives through the prevention of ill-health and disease. Their new £40M building has provided the University of Aberdeen with a facility with unique capabilities for human nutrition and metabolic research.



ABERDEEN AND ABERDEENSHIRE

Scotland's third largest city, Aberdeen sits on the coast between the mountains of Aberdeenshire and the stunning North Sea coastline. The Aberdeen City region is a can-do place that is actively investing, at scale, in its future.

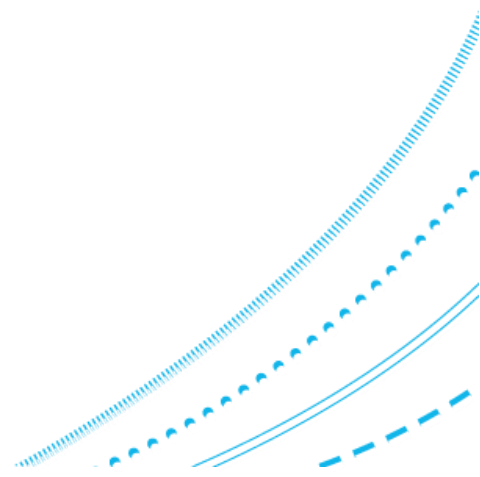
Renowned as a Global Energy Hub, Aberdeen is a vibrant, entrepreneurial region, home to a unique mix of business opportunities and specialist skills across various sectors including energy, technology, life sciences and food & drink. More than 20% of Scotland's top businesses are located in this region which is taking great strides to ensure that it continues to compete on a world stage. Investments of more than £10 billion of public and private infrastructure is due to be delivered before 2030, marking an exciting time to be part of a genuine world-class location.

Built from sparkling local granite Aberdeen has earned the name of the Silver City. As the energy capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live, work and study. Due to its global business and international energy industry credentials, Aberdeen is well served by local and national transport infrastructure with excellent rail networks that run both North and South of Scotland and the rest of the UK. It also acts as an international travel hub. Flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights and serves international travel to European centres such as Amsterdam (Schiphol) and Paris (Charles de Gaulle) as well as flights to other European destinations.

The City and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, seaside and country attractions. Aberdeen has first class amenities including [His Majesty's Theatre](#), [Music Hall](#), [Art Gallery](#), [the P&J Arena](#), [Museums](#), and [Beach Leisure Centre](#). The City is framed by its accessible beach front which is within a short walk of the city centre and there are an array of activities available across the region such as hill walking; mountaineering; sailing; surfing; salmon, trout and sea fishing; golf; sailing; surfing and windsurfing. The surrounding countryside, known as Aberdeenshire, is also one of Scotland's most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

The city and the surrounding area have ranked consistently highly in nationally recognised quality of life surveys, coming out top 10 as one of the best places to live in Scotland in 2020 in the annual Bank of Scotland survey.

To find out more visit www.visitabdn.com



EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The University values a diverse working environment and recognises the benefits this can bring. The University is keen to receive applications from individuals from across all of the equality protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).

The University supports opportunities for flexible working for a range of reasons and has policies in place to facilitate this. The policies can be found at <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php>.

The University's commitment to gender equality has been recognised through the achievement of an Athena SWAN Bronze award at an institutional level and across all its subject areas. The University is also a Stonewall Diversity Champion to further LGBT+ equality.

The University is signed up to Advance HE's Race Equality Charter, affirming the University's commitment to the charter's aim of improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education.

Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact us directly by using [contact SCOTLAND-BSL](#).

The University is delighted to be accredited as a [Disability Confident](#) employer and strives to ensure that disabled staff and students have the opportunity to work and study in an inclusive, accessible and supportive environment.

www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277

HOW TO APPLY

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is **10 January 2023**

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Professor Jules Griffin, Director of the Rowett Institute

Jules.griffin@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Griffin.

Please quote reference number ROW104A on all correspondence.

