

## Job Description

### NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

#### Paediatrics ST1(ST2) (1 post)

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The University of Sheffield, in partnership with NHS England North East and Yorkshire the Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust, has developed an exciting pathway of academic clinical training opportunities.

Applications are now invited for an Academic Clinical Fellowship in Paediatric Medicine at ST1 and ST2 level. This new post has been created as part of the NHS England (NHSE)/National Institution for Health Research (NIHR) programme of Integrated Academic Training and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians, researchers.

Please note:- Applicants looking for an ST2 post are encouraged to apply to this vacancy at ST1. If successful your experience will be assessed upon commencing in post enabling you to work at the appropriate level.

We are seeking highly motivated, enthusiastic individuals with the potential to excel in both their clinical and academic training and who have the ambition to be the next generation of academic clinicians.

This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) programme in Paediatric Medicine will be run by the University of Sheffield, Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust and NHS England North East and Yorkshire.

Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 3-year fixed-term national training posts. They attract an NTN(A) and trainees undertake 75% clinical and 25% academic training over the term of the post. They are employed by the NHS Trust and have an honorary contract with the University at whose Medical School their academic research is supported. During this period, it is expected that the Academic Clinical Fellow will complete their core training in Paediatric Medicine (ST1, ST2 ST3 or ST4years) within the South rotation of NHS England North East and Yorkshire as well as completing 9 months of academic research training.

ACF trainees also undertake a Research Training Programme provided by the University for which funding is provided by NIHR. They also are eligible for a £1,000 bursary per year to support research training activity (e.g. to attend academic conferences).

The Clinical Academic Programme at Sheffield has a competitive ACF pump-priming award. Trainees can apply for up to £2000 for initial costs for work aimed at achieving a research fellowship.

ACF trainees would also normally complete and submit an external funding application for a research fellowship to enable them to complete a higher degree (PhD or research MD) following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post, which would be completed as Out-of-Programme-Research (OOPR).

All Academic Clinical Fellowships are run-through posts, regardless of specialty, with the exception of 'Medical Education' ACFs. A trainee entering ACF at ST1 or ST2 in a specialty with a Core Training period would therefore be guaranteed continued training to CCT in the eventual specialty, as long as they progress satisfactorily through both their academic and clinical training. Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.

## POST DETAILS

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### Job Title

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) – Paediatric Medicine

### Duration of the Post

Up to 3 years (25% academic, 75% clinical).

### Lead NHS Hospital/Trust in which training will take place

Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust.

### Research institution in which training will take place

The Academic Clinical Fellow will join a team of clinicians and scientists, who share research interests in basic and clinical aspects of paediatric medicine. Due to the number of several subspecialities in paediatrics, paediatric research is closely interlinked with [world-leading research themes](#) in cross-cutting collaborations with different departments of the Medical School and the University of Sheffield.

Current ongoing work includes projects on clinical and basic science projects. [Professor Amaka Offiah](#) is a radiologist with an interest in the imaging of the paediatric musculoskeletal system in general and child abuse and skeletal dysplasias in particular. [Professor Nils Krone](#), Professor of Paediatric Endocrinology, leads a clinical and basic science research programme into inborn errors of steroidogenic and the health consequences of glucocorticoid deficiency based at the Children's Hospital and the [Bateson Centre](#). [Dr Charlotte Elder](#), Senior Clinical Lecturer in Paediatric Endocrinology, researches adrenal insufficiency, in particular screening and diagnostic tests, and has an expertise in drug development. There are honorary chair-holders with teaching and research interests Paediatric Endocrinology and Child health technology

([Professor P Dimitri](#)) as well as Paediatric Respiratory Medicine ([Professor H Elphick](#)). In addition, the consultant staff of the Sheffield Children's Hospital hold Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer contracts and a number are very active in research, providing further opportunities for research supervision in combination with senior academics at the University of Sheffield.

Child Health has significantly enhanced its research profile in the recent years, increased the number of non-clinical staff and attracted a significant number of PhD and BMedSci students. Major research interests within Paediatrics are in [Bone](#), [Endocrinology](#), [Cancer](#), Respiratory and [Immunity](#), [Infectious Disease](#) and [Neuroscience](#) that are closely aligned with [major research themes](#) of the Medical School. The supervisory team will be composed depending on the research and subspeciality interest of the successful candidates.

### **Laboratory Facilities**

In recent years, the Medical School has spent £24m refurbishing its Basic Science accommodation. Most of the Academic Unit of Child Health's laboratory activity is now undertaken in the Medical School, with major groups having critical mass and access to core facilities, which provide international leading facilities.

The new Sheffield Medical Research Institute contains core facilities for DNA sequencing, flow cytometry, confocal imaging, proteomics, DNA microarrays, high throughput robotic screening and histopathology. There are excellent opportunities to develop strong collaborative links with other active research groups within The Medical School as well as the Department of Biomedical Sciences such as the [Bateson Centre](#), the [Centre for Stem Cell Biology](#), Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience ([SITraN](#)).

### **Postgraduate Facilities**

There is a vigorous programme of postgraduate clinical education organised by the Postgraduate Medical Education department. There is an Education & Skills Centre on F Floor of the Stephenson Wing which has a lecture theatre and 3 training rooms, all of which are equipped with up-to-date AV equipment. These rooms are also used for clinical skills training.

### **Undergraduate Education**

Child Health is responsible for paediatric teaching to approximately 240 students in Phase 3a of the Sheffield MB ChB course. Much of the clinical teaching occurs in neighbouring hospitals. The students have a formative assessment at the end of their seven-week attachment, and a summative assessment at the end of the year. The new Sheffield undergraduate curriculum was introduced in January 2006 and has been well received. Students may subsequently elect to take an SSC (student selected component) and each year a number choose paediatrics or one of its related subjects for this. A number, usually of two or three, highly motivated students spend a year in Child Health taking an intercalated BMedSci, which comprises 70% project work and 30% teaching. Paediatrics has had a steady flow of BMedSci students, all of whom have achieved a First or Upper Second Class Honours degree, and most of whom have had one or more publications.

## **Children's Clinical Research Facility**

The UK's first dedicated paediatric clinical research facility was opened at Sheffield Children's Hospital in January 2008. The CCRF (Children's Clinical Research Facility) is now co-located with Medical Daycare and has expanded to provide 4 cubicles, 4 consulting rooms and 6 infusion spaces; it provides all the facilities needed to undertake first class research in children and the Trust's R&D staff are embedded within the CRF, making it a "one-stop shop" for supporting investigators. The CCRF can accommodate a range of studies, from experimental medicine to phase IV clinical trials. The Trust has a broad portfolio of studies funded by charities, NIHR and industry. Our success in research awards includes grants supported by NIHR, MRC and Wellcome Trust.

## **Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust**

Health services in Sheffield are provided for a resident population of approximately 526,000. Regional services are provided for approximately 450,000 children under sixteen. The majority of children's services are based at the Children's Hospital. The Children's Hospital forms a combined Foundation Trust with Community Paediatric Services and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

Hospital services for adults are provided by the Northern General Hospital and the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, which, together with the Charles Clifford Dental Hospital and Weston Park Hospital, form the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. They house university departments in various disciplines and have academic, laboratory and library facilities on their respective sites.

The Supra-District Neonatal Intensive Care Unit is part of the Jessop Wing of the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, situated about a quarter of a mile from the Children's Hospital. Inpatient Ophthalmology is based at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. Spinal injuries (except PICU) are based at the Northern General Hospital. Cardiac services for children are based at the Leeds General Infirmary and their Consultant Cardiologists provide an outreach service as required.

## **Sheffield Children's Hospital**

The Sheffield Children's Hospital (SCH) is part of the Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust. It is located approximately one mile from the city centre on the south-west aspect of Sheffield, close to several of the hospitals within the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust: Royal Hallamshire Hospital and the Jessop Wing (Obstetrics/Neonates); the Charles Clifford Dental Hospital; Weston Park Radiotherapy and Oncology Hospital; and also to the School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences and the main university campus.

The Stephenson Wing of the Children's the Illingworth library and lecture theatre and the Department of Postgraduate Medical Education.

## **Activity**

As a result of the rationalisation of paediatric services in Sheffield, the hospital is in the process of significant development and building. Currently, the hospital supports approximately 150 beds, with a new wing opened in 2018. All paediatric in-patients in Sheffield are cared for at Sheffield Children's Hospital.

There are eight operating theatres, a procedure room used for the Exodontia service, a nine-bedded Post-Anaesthesia Care Unit and a 15-bedded Day Case Surgical Unit.

Surgical services involve general, urology, neonatal, orthopaedic (including spinal surgery and limb reconstruction), plastic, ENT, dental and neuro-surgery. Currently there are six Consultant General Paediatric Surgeons and six Consultant Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeons based at SCH.

Medical services comprise oncology, haematology (including bone marrow transplantation), endocrine and diabetes, respiratory, neurology, gastroenterology, hepatology, renal, inherited metabolic disease, metabolic bone disease including the Highly Specialised Services for severe, complex and atypical OI and for hypophosphatasia, intensive care and immunological paediatrics. The hospital has a separate children's A & E department that sees about 40,000 new patients per year.

SCH provides secondary paediatric services for the city, which comprises about 20% of the population of North Trent.

There is full on-site laboratory and radiological support, including MRI and spiral CT. The radiologists provide an echocardiography service as the cardiology service is based at Leeds General Infirmary.

### **Research Protected Time:**

The ACF post offers an NTN(A) to individuals wishing to enter Specialty Training in Paediatric Medicine. The duration of the post will be 3 years and coincide with core training (ST1, ST2, ST3 or ST4). The expected outcome of the ACF is the preparation of a successful application for a research training fellowship or educational training programme leading to a higher degree plus evidence of satisfactory progress in clinical training. The successful applicant will have evidence of academic interest and should be aiming to pursue a career in academic Paediatric Medicine. The postholder will undertake general paediatric ward work and acute on-call, following the normal 14 week rota cycle and will typically spend two days per week of academic time for nine weeks and three days per week for one week. These arrangements may be altered to accommodate the postholder's academic needs, balanced against their clinical commitments.

### **Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component**

The postholder will spend three years in paediatrics and neonatology at the ST1-3 level, based at Sheffield Children's Hospital, the Jessop Wing of the Royal Hallamshire Hospital and 6 months at a local district general hospital. General paediatric experience during ward work and acute take will be complemented by cross-cover for colleagues in sub-specialty areas including gastroenterology, cystic fibrosis and metabolic medicine. The academic component will comprise 25% of the total time. Academic training will be delivered via the Clinical Research Facility, co-ordinated with the existing ACF programme developed by the Medical School.

The ACF will undertake a specific project to collect pilot data and develop a proposal to take forward for an externally-funded PhD. Project support is available in the specific areas of bone metabolism, diabetes and endocrinology, gastroenterology, oncology

(including bone oncology), haematology/oncology, metabolic medicine and respiratory medicine including cystic fibrosis.

### **Objectives of the Training Programme**

1. To obtain core competencies at ST1, ST2 and ST3 or ST4 levels.
2. To undertake a generic programme in research methodology.
3. To identify an area of academic and clinical interest upon which to base an application for an externally-funded PhD programme

### **REPORT TO:**

Academic Programme Director: Professor Nils Krone [n.krone@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:n.krone@sheffield.ac.uk)

### **MAIN ACTIVITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

#### ***Research***

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an area of research interest and apply for a research training fellowship during the course of this post. This will be done in consultation with Professor Nils Krone and colleagues.

#### ***Teaching***

The postholder will contribute to the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes of the School and will also be involved with the assessment of students and have personal mentoring responsibilities for a small group of students on the MBChB programme.

## **Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component**

It is anticipated the ACF will undertake clinical duties as for a full time post for 2 years and three months. The remainder of the post (9 months) will be devoted to academic work in two blocks of 6 and 3 months. Typically, the initial focus for ACFs is on obtaining membership, with development of the application for an externally funded Fellowship beginning in the second year; academic time (usually taken in the second and third years) is used to both generate pilot data and write the application. Appropriate NIHR and MRC Fellowships are typically submitted in early-mid January of the third year. The postholder will undertake 75% of the normal on-call expected for a full time post holder. There may be provision to accommodate 100% on-call if requested and appropriate to academic and clinical training needs.

The initial period of the ACF will be spent at Sheffield Children's Hospital (SCH) with NICU training at the Jessop wing during the second year. The postholder will return to SCH during their third year. At SCH, the clinical training is delivered using a ward-based system that reflects children's ages with junior trainees being directly supervised by more experienced trainees as well as by the consultants in each specialty area. There are grid trainees in most of the sub-specialty areas who will provide additional support. The NICU offers comprehensive training in all aspects of neonatal intensive care. The postholder will have ample opportunity to develop clinical and practical skills in both settings.

It is envisaged that 6 months during the ST1 to 3 (or 4) training period is spent at a nearby district general hospital to provide clinical exposure outside of tertiary neonatal and paediatric centres. The timing of this post is by mutual agreement based on training needs.

There is an active educational programme which provides training in both core paediatrics and more advanced paediatrics aimed at MRCPCH as well as weekly grand rounds, case reviews and regular audit and morbidity, mortality meetings. The ACF would be expected to engage in the regular clinical training programme run for all junior doctors, complete MRCPCH during their fellowship and achieve the clinical core competencies set out in the RCPCH curriculum.

The postholder will be expected to attend the regional STEPP training programme which maps to the RCPCH curriculum. They will need to meet the requirements of the training programme and will be assessed at least annually by way of the ARCP process.

***Accommodation and support for the post***

Office space will be made available within the area the academic is taking place.

## CONTACTS

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### Academic Leads and Supervisors:

Professor Nils Krone  
Professor of Paediatric Endocrinology  
Honorary Consultant Paediatric Endocrinologist  
Divisions of Clinical Medicine  
School of Medicine and Population Health  
University of Sheffield

Clinic office  
Sheffield Children's Hospital  
Western Bank  
Sheffield  
S10 2TH  
Tel (+44) 0114 271 7508  
Fax (+44) 0114 275 5364  
Email [N.Krone@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:N.Krone@sheffield.ac.uk)

Academic, Educational and Clinical supervisors will be assigned following appointment to align with the individual's needs.

### Head of School:

Dr Kay Tyerman - Leeds Teaching Hospitals [kay.tyerman@nhs.net](mailto:kay.tyerman@nhs.net)

### College Tutor

Dr Sarah Maltby [sarah.maltby2@nhs.net](mailto:sarah.maltby2@nhs.net)

### Training Programme Directors

Dr Alison Scott – Sheffield Children's Hospital - Level 1 trainees

Dr Fharhad Motaleb - Sheffield Children's Hospital - Level 2 trainees

## **Training Programme Director (clinical):**

Dr Alison Scott [alison.scott15@nhs.net](mailto:alison.scott15@nhs.net)

## **Academic Training Programme Director**

Professor Janet E Brown [j.e.brown@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:j.e.brown@sheffield.ac.uk)

## **Further Information**

Because of the nature of the work for which you are applying, this post is exempted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975.

Applicants are therefore not entitled to withhold information about convictions, which for other purposes are “spent” under the provisions of the Act, and in the event of employment any failure to disclose such convictions could result in dismissal or disciplinary action by the University. Any information given will be strictly confidential and will be considered only in relation to an application for positions to which the Order applies.

For further information about the Academic Clinical Fellowship programme, please refer to the NIHR (National Institute for Health Research) Integrated Academic Training (IAT) page on <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm#one>