

**Job Description**  
**NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow in Mental Health:**  
**General Psychiatry, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and**  
**Psychiatry of Learning Disability**  
**University of Bristol**

**1. Job title & entry level(s):**

Academic Clinical Fellow  
General Psychiatry: CT1, CT2, CT3, ST4  
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: CT1, CT2, CT3, ST4  
Psychiatry of Learning Disability: CT1, CT2, CT3

**2. Duration of post:**

3 years (FTE)  
Candidates working Less Than Full Time (LTFT) or would like should notify the relevant Local Office at point of offer of your intention to work LTFT and this will be considered against the national eligibility criteria.

**3. Hospitals in which training will take place:**

This training post is based in the Severn region. Rotations have not been confirmed at this stage but may include posts in Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust, Gloucester Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust, Somerset NHS Foundation Trust and also (for Child and Adolescent psychiatry) Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust bases in Swindon, Melksham and Keynsham. Should you wish to explore this in more detail, please get in touch with the Training Programme Director.

**4. Research institutions in which training will take place:**

University of Bristol - <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/medical-school/study/clinical/>

**5. Timetabling of clinical and research time:**

75% clinical 25% research in a flexible way during the working week or months in accordance with pre-agreed arrangements between the clinical and academic supervisors.

**6. Description of research component of programme**

The Centre for Academic Mental Health (CAMH) is a hub for vibrant multidisciplinary research in mental health spanning basic and behavioural science, clinical translation, public health and health services research.

Our world-class infrastructure includes key links with substantial NIHR funding via [Bristol BRC](#) and [ARC South West](#), both of which have strong Mental Health themes. We contribute to the [NIHR Mental Health Mission \(MHM\)](#) which brings additional funding, training and capacity-building opportunities. Through MHM, we have recently received [£700,000 for a new Mood Disorders Service with Avon and Wiltshire Partnership NHS Trust](#), which will provide excellent training and research opportunities locally, and facilitates collaboration with 15 such specialist centres across the UK. We are also part of the NIHR Mental Health Translational Research Collaboration (NIHR MH-TRC) in the [Early Psychosis](#) pathway, funding our ongoing work in determining risk of psychosis. Members of CAMH also contribute to the NIHR MH-TRC in Mood Disorders, Children and Young People's Mental Health, Data and Digital and Substance Use and Addictions themes. CAMH members work closely with the MRC Integrative Epidemiology Unit, via the [Immunopsychiatry Programme](#).

CAMH has [expertise over a wide range of research areas](#): addiction, eating disorders, depression and anxiety, immunopsychiatry, neurodevelopment, personality disorders, psychosis and schizophrenia, suicide and self-harm. Trainees will have opportunities to work on ongoing trials for the treatment of psychosis (PIMS trial), depression, and personality disorders. They can learn mixed-methods approaches to developing interventions, including digital interventions, to prevent self-harm, reduce online harms, adapt trial methodologies for neurodiverse populations, develop guided EMDR to treat PTSD in primary care, prevent depression and anxiety, and treat eating disorders. They can work with researchers using cohort, routinely collected, and genetic data including from ALSPAC, the Age of Wonder, the UK Clinical Practice Research Datalink, the Pelotas birth cohort, and Swedish Registry data, in work including developing risk-prediction tools and understanding the mechanisms leading from Adverse Childhood Experiences to anxiety. They can learn experimental psychology methodologies including eye tracking to understand and retrain cognitive biases. They can learn to collect and analyse Ecological Momentary Assessment data to better understand temporal variation in mental health, including thoughts of self-harm and suicide. The ACF will also have access to the excellent Bristol Medical School short course scheme.

Five of our ACF's over the last five years been awarded competitive, externally-funded PhD Fellowships (Wellcome & NIHR), and four have gone on to secure NIHR ACL posts.

## **7. Description of clinical training component of programme**

Severn Psychiatry has an excellent reputation with 100% fill rates in Core Psychiatry Training and positive responses in the GMC Survey. For core trainees in psychiatry, the Severn Region provides a nationally respected training programme, which was recently recognised as one of the top core psychiatry programmes in the country in the GMC survey of trainees. The training programme includes posts in Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust, Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership and the Somerset Partnership. A wide range of sub-speciality posts are available to core trainees including forensic, psychotherapy and perinatal psychiatry.

All psychiatry trainees within the Severn region have 1 hour of educational supervision per week. In addition, academic trainees have regular academic supervision, at least fortnightly.

The ACF will also have access to the medical school short course scheme, as well as the faculty specialty training days. The South West RCPsych division also runs highly regarded training including on educational supervision, preparing for consultant posts and the Mental Health Act.

## **8. Academic Supervisor / Academic Programme Director: Integrated Academic Training Lead(s):**

- Professor Shelley Potter ([shelley.potter@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:shelley.potter@bristol.ac.uk))
- Dr Helen Winter ([helen.winter@uhbw.nhs.uk](mailto:helen.winter@uhbw.nhs.uk))

### **Academic Lead:**

- Dr Helen Bould ([Helen.Bould@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:Helen.Bould@bristol.ac.uk))

## **9. Clinical Training Programme Director:**

- Core: Dr Rosalind Ward ([Rosalind.ward@nhs.net](mailto:Rosalind.ward@nhs.net))
- General Psychiatry: Dr Claire Taylor ([claire.taylor10@nhs.net](mailto:claire.taylor10@nhs.net))
- Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: Dr Phil Norman ([phil.norman@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:phil.norman@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk))

- Psychiatry of Learning Disability: Dr Suraj Perera ([suraj.perera@nhs.net](mailto:suraj.perera@nhs.net))

**10. Deanery contact for further information:**

Recruitment Hotline: 01454 252 610

Recruitment Inbox: [England.acfreruitment.sw@nhs.net](mailto:England.acfreruitment.sw@nhs.net)

**11. Useful websites for further information:**

NIHR Integrated Academic Training Website: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/IAT>

BMA Junior Doctor Pay Scales (link to latest pay Circular): <https://www.bma.org.uk/pay-and-contracts/pay/junior-doctors-pay-scales/pay-scales-for-junior-doctors-in-england>

University Clinical Academic Training website: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/medical-school/study/clinical/>

This job description was prepared July 2026