

Work at Keele



Nursing Commercial Research Fellow

NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR)

Post: Part-time (0.4 or 0.5 FTE)

Duration: Fixed term up to 18 months (all posts to end by 31 March 2028)

Salary: Equivalent to current NHS/academic salary (pro rata; capped at £74,896)

Faculty/Directorate: Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

Dept/School: School of Nursing and Midwifery



Opportunities
to grow, thrive,
and progress

A vibrant
community on a
beautiful campus

Embracing
flexibility, balance,
and wellbeing

THIS IS KEELE



About the Role



Thank you for considering a role at Keele University.

Inside this document, you'll discover key details about the job and our diverse and vibrant institution. We invite you to explore the impressive benefits that come with joining our community - [just click here to learn more about our values and what makes Keele a fantastic place to work](#).

The Role

Introduction

The NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR) is launching a development fellowship scheme to build nursing leadership in commercial research across primary care and wider care settings. Fellows will gain skills in commercial research delivery, academic development, strategic systems working, and cross-sector collaboration.

A total of 11 Fellows will be appointed, hosted across SPCR member departments plus Newcastle and Birmingham. Fellows will join a supportive cohort with mentorship, supervision, shared learning, and access to SPCR training.

Purpose of the Role

To support national growth, capacity, and capability in commercial research across primary care and wider care settings by developing understanding of commercial research delivery, academic skills, partnerships with stakeholders, and insight into how nursing roles support commercial research.

Important: This is a development fellowship. Fellows will not be employed as research nurses or deliver a specific study but will develop strategic and academic capabilities.

Main duties and responsibilities

Developing Skills & Expertise:

- Build knowledge of commercial research delivery, regulatory pathways, commercial study set-up, and operational design.



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- Develop insight into how nursing and nursing associate roles can support commercial research across wider care settings.
- Engage in training in academic skills including governance, appraisal, writing, dissemination, and stakeholder engagement.

Engagement & Collaboration

- Engage with nursing teams across primary care, community services, general practice, wider care settings, and secondary care.
- Work collaboratively with RDN Health & Care Directors (NMAHPs), NIHR Research Delivery Network, Commercial Research Delivery Centres, ICS/ICBs, industry partners, and academic departments.

Strategic Networking & Influence

- Act as a key link between academic teams and external stakeholders.
- Identify barriers and enablers for commercial research in wider care settings.
- Share learning and support spread of commercial research activity.

Cohort Participation

- Attend SPCR training, cohort meetings, and cross-site events.
- Travel locally, regionally, and nationally as required.
- Participate in reflective learning and peer support.

Research / Quality Improvement Project

- Fellows will complete a short research or QI project with support from their host department. A written impact statement is required at the end of the Fellowship.



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Eligibility

- Any NMC-registered nurse working in primary care, community services, or wider care settings is eligible.
- Applicants not working in these settings must demonstrate ability to form partnerships rapidly.

This job description is not intended as an exhaustive list of duties or a restrictive definition of the post but rather should be read as a guide to the main priorities and typical areas of activity of the post-holder. These activities are subject to amendment over time as priorities and requirements evolve and as such it may be amended at any time by the line manager following discussion with the post holder.

In addition, University staff are expected to:

We believe that diversity in its many forms is a strength that underpins the exchange of ideas, innovation and debate. We are committed to providing an environment in which all members of our community can reach their full potential and are treated with dignity and respect.

Our policy and procedure framework has been developed to ensure that we meet our statutory obligations whilst also setting out the obligations of colleagues to contribute to providing an inclusive environment for all, irrespective of an individual's background, views or beliefs.

All University staff are expected to:

Take reasonable care of the Health and Safety of yourself and that of any other person who may be affected by your acts or omissions at work.

Adhere to regulations and procedures relating to data protection and information security.

Co-operate with the University in ensuring as far as is necessary, that Statutory Requirements, Codes of Practice, University Policies and Procedures at both University and Departmental level are complied with.



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Ensure robust procedures and processes are followed for services and products that are procured and undertaken in line with prevailing legislation, statutory obligations and policies.

Adhere to the University's environmental policy and procedures and seek to implement mechanisms which will enhance environmental sustainability within your area of responsibility.

Undertake continuing Personal/Professional Development and to engage with appropriate development activities to ensure that your skills and knowledge enable you to meet current and future role requirements.

Contribute to the delivery of the University's Vision and Values as appropriate to your role. Further information regarding the University's Values and Behaviours Framework can be found on the Staff Intranet which has been put in place to underpin how we work together in delivering an environment which values both difference and inclusion.





The Person



The Person

Selection Criteria	Essential (E) or Desirable (D)	Evidenced by: Application (A) Interview (I) Test (T) Presentation (P)
Qualifications / Training		
NMC-registered nurse	E	A,I
PhD in relevant subject	D	A
Experience		
Experience in primary care, community, or wider care settings	E	A,I
Experience with NIHR Portfolio research	D	A,I
Experience in audits, service evaluations, QI, or research	D	A
Experience in multidisciplinary collaboration	E	A,I
Experience of working and communicating effectively with people from a broad range of backgrounds and prior knowledge	E	A,I
Experience of managing budgets and resources	D	A,I
Skills / Aptitudes / Competences		
Interest in research, service improvement, or innovation	E	A,I
Understanding of UK research governance	D	A,I
Knowledge of commercial research or digital/health tech	D	A,I
Excellent standard of written communication	E	A,I
Ability to resolve problems to ensure deadlines are met	E	I
Excellent attention to detail	E	A,I
Excellent IT skills	E	A,I
Other		



The Person



Ability to collaborate with academic colleagues and external stakeholders on areas of shared research	E	A,I
Committed to the application of the principles of research governance & ethics	E	A,I
Ability to travel to meet the requirements of the role when necessary	E	A, I



Further Information

Closing date for applications: 28/08/2026

Interviews will be held on: 18/09/2026

How to apply

For full post details and to apply, please visit: www.keele.ac.uk/jobs.

Keele University employees wishing to apply for this vacancy should login to Employee Self Service and click on the 'View current vacancies' link.

Eligibility to work

This post is unlikely to meet the relevant criteria to allow the University to issue a Certificate of Sponsorship. Applications from candidates who require a Certificate of Sponsorship to work in the UK will be considered against the requirements stated in the recruitment documentation. Recruitment decisions will be made in accordance with the UK Visas and Immigration guidance.

Clearances

Please note this appointment is subject to a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service check.

References

You will be asked to supply details by two individuals (three if you are applying for an academic or research post), that can provide relevant and credible insights into your employment details and suitability for the role. This will include a reference from your current line manager (or most recent line manager if currently unemployed), and your next most recent employer (where applicable). In providing these details you are giving the University permission to request personal information about you from your referees, which may include confirmation of your previous salary, disciplinary and work history.



Further Information



For graduates or candidates with limited work experience, references may be provided by individuals who can speak to your achievements and skills in other areas such as academia, volunteering or extracurricular activities.

With your consent, the University may request additional references if it is felt these are necessary to provide a more comprehensive understanding of your suitability for the role.

Further information regarding references can be found here:

www.keele.ac.uk/jobs/vacanciesfags

Disability Confident

Keele University is committed to taking positive steps to employ, keep and develop the abilities of disabled staff and has been awarded the disability symbol. We undertake to offer all applicants with a disability and who meet the minimum essential criteria an interview. If you wish to be considered under this scheme, please indicate this by selecting 'Yes' in the Guaranteed Interview Scheme Section of your application. You can also provide specific information of any requirements / adjustments you may require to assist you during the recruitment process within this section. For advice or guidance please contact the Recruitment Team email: vacancies@keele.ac.uk.

The information you provide on your application will be forwarded to the recruiting area so that they may consider whether they can facilitate your requested adjustments. Please note that if you do not indicate that you wish to be considered under the Disability Confident scheme in your application, you will not be considered under this Scheme.

Alternative formats

If you have any other requirements that will help you access the application or interview process, or require documents in alternative formats, please contact vacancies@keele.ac.uk.



About Keele



About Keele

We're Keele and we're different. Founded 75 years ago to meet the demands of a new kind of society, economy and world, our principles resonate now more than ever.

We are a campus university with **over 15,000 students**, nestled in 600 acres of Staffordshire countryside and just an hour from Manchester and Birmingham. It's a big campus but a small and cosmopolitan community, with space to think and plenty to do.

Our research seeks to **improve lives and address the most pressing challenges** across our region, country, and world. Our academics are actively studying matters of global importance: from food security, climate change and smart energy, to neglected tropical diseases, global health and sustainable futures.

As well as **world-leading research** (Research Excellence Framework, 2021), Keele also sets the gold standard for teaching, with some of the most satisfied students in the country – in 2022, students ranked us “**Britain’s best university**” in the Student Crowd University Awards, and in 2023 we were awarded the **highest rating of “Gold” overall** in the Teaching Excellence Framework.

For more information about the benefits of working at Keele University, visit www.keele.ac.uk/jobs.

