



## Job Description

<b>Post/Job Title:</b>	<b>Post-Doctoral Research Assistant</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Bournemouth Gateway Building</b>
<b>Faculty/Professional Service:</b>	<b>Faculty of Health, Environment &amp; Medical Sciences</b>
<b>Department/Section:</b>	<b>School of Allied health and Exercise Science</b>
<b>Duration:</b>	<b>Fixed term until 31/01/28</b>
<b>Normal hours per week:</b>	<b>1.0 FTE</b> <b>(Some flexibility will be required in order to ensure that key time scales and deadlines are met).</b>
<b>Grade:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Accountable to:</b>	<b>Dr Susan Dewhurst</b>

### Job Purpose

The post-holder will be responsible in aspects of the research process in care home settings in the Dorset area as part of a NIHR-funded intervention development and feasibility-testing study led by Leeds Beckett University. Working alongside Dr Susan Dewhurst and Professor Jane Murphy and a national team of experts in the field, the post-holder will undertake recruitment and consent of care homes, participants, undertake observational, interview and documentary and quantitative data collection and analysis, support intervention development, implementation and evaluation, and contribute to study reporting and dissemination.

Ideally the applicant will have experience of conducting research with older people living in the community and of a range of research methods, with a primary focus on qualitative research. The applicant will have a PhD or be close to submission of their thesis.

**We welcome expressions of interest from people from a Black, Asian or other Minority Ethnic background but accept applications from all groups.**

### Main Responsibilities

Key responsibilities include to

1. Deliver research objectives of proposed work within the timeframes of the project and ensuring the achievement of project outcomes.
2. Plan, design and conduct research including qualitative research methods using focus groups, interviews within the research area.
3. Engage with key stakeholders including care home residents, family members/supporters and care home staff to undertake the research and to support co-production activities.
4. Write up research work for publication, to include research outputs and reports.
5. Support maintenance of data and records in accordance with insert relevant discipline standards or project protocol(s).

6. Present findings at national/international conferences and other dissemination and knowledge exchange activities, including public engagement as appropriate.
7. Continue to develop a body of published work and/or artefacts relevant to own discipline both in terms of type and volume.
8. Build relationships with internal and external contacts to exchange information, publish outputs, develop future collaborations and identify potential sources of research funding / opportunities to collaborate.
9. Take an active role in the academic community of the School through participation in relevant research seminars and events.
10. Undertake personal and professional development activities in line with agreed appraisal and development programme to enhance personal knowledge and contribution to relevant activities.
11. Travel to destinations across the region and UK as required.

NB: The purpose of the job description is to indicate the general level of responsibility of the position. The duties may vary from time to time without changing their general character or level of responsibility.

### **Organisation Chart**

PVC Dean of Faculty → Head of School → Post-Doctoral Research fellow

### **Contacts**

**Internal:** Dr Susan Dewhurst sdewhurst@bournemouth.ac.uk

**External:** Academic colleagues from NHS organisations, partner universities and community organisations e.g. care homes

### **Challenges**

The role involves research in a newly established research project, funded by NIHR HSDR working in collaboration with Leeds Beckett University as Lead (host) organisation, other interdisciplinary academic partners and community partners. The intellectual demands are high but so should be the rewards of being associated with this new and exciting research project.

### **Information Governance Responsibilities**

#### Data User

i. Comply with the associated data protection, information security, information management and information technology regulations, policies, processes and procedures.

### **Safeguarding and Regulated Activity**

If the role involves engaging in regulated activity relevant to vulnerable groups including children and disabled adults, it is an offence to apply for and perform the role, if a person is bared from engaging in regulated activity. Further information is available in BU's Safeguarding Policy and Suitability Statement on the Recruitment and Employment of Ex-offenders.

### **Additional Information**

The purpose of the job description is to indicate the general level of responsibility and location of the position. The duties may vary from time to time without changing their general character or level of responsibility.

BU is an equal opportunities employer which values a diverse workforce. The post holder must at all times carry out their responsibilities with due regard to the University's Dignity, Diversity and Equality Policy Statement.

Our highly skilled and creative workforce is comprised of individuals drawn from a broad cross section of the globe, and who reflect a variety of backgrounds, talents, perspectives and experiences to build our global learning community. Through fused activity, the post holder must have an understanding of and commitment to promoting a global outlook.

All employees have an obligation to be aware of the University's Sustainability Policy, Climate and Ecological Crisis Action Plan, Travel Plan and associated documents, and to ensure that they carry out their day-to-day activities in an environmentally responsible manner and inspire students to do the same.

**November 2025**



## Person Specification

Post / Job Title: Post-Doctoral Research Assistant	Post: TBC
Faculty / Service: Faculty of Health, Environment and Medical Sciences	Date: November 2025
<b>SELECTION CRITERIA</b>	<b>Essential / Desirable</b>
Knowledge (including experience & qualifications)	
PhD in relevant discipline such as nutrition, psychology and social sciences	E
Relevant experience of research fieldwork in health-related care or a closely related area	E
Evidence of research skills including production of peer reviewed publications in a relevant field	E
Knowledge of fieldwork planning & logistics as evidence via participation in research	E
Experience of grant writing and co-applicant in funding applications.	D
Skills	
Research and writing skills to publishable standard	E
Ability to process data & manage data	E
Experience of use of qualitative data management software such as NVivo	E
Experience of using quantitative data management software such as Stata, R, SPSS	E
Excellent interpersonal skills	E
Ability to work well both as a team member and on own initiative	E
Ability to communicate well at all levels within the project team	E
Ability to communicate well at all levels with external organisations	E
Fieldwork skills relevant to community-based research studies	E
Ability to manage large data sets	E
Ability to organise data in hard copy and electronically	E
Experience of ethics application	E
Experience of user involvement research	E
Attributes	
Ability to travel within the UK	E
Ability to identify research and enterprise activities	E
Highly motivated to working in subject area	E
Flexible, energetic and adaptable with strong team working skills	E
Ability to prioritise and work under pressure	E
Valid UK drivers licence as fieldwork will include working off – site	E
Appetite for collective responsibility	E