

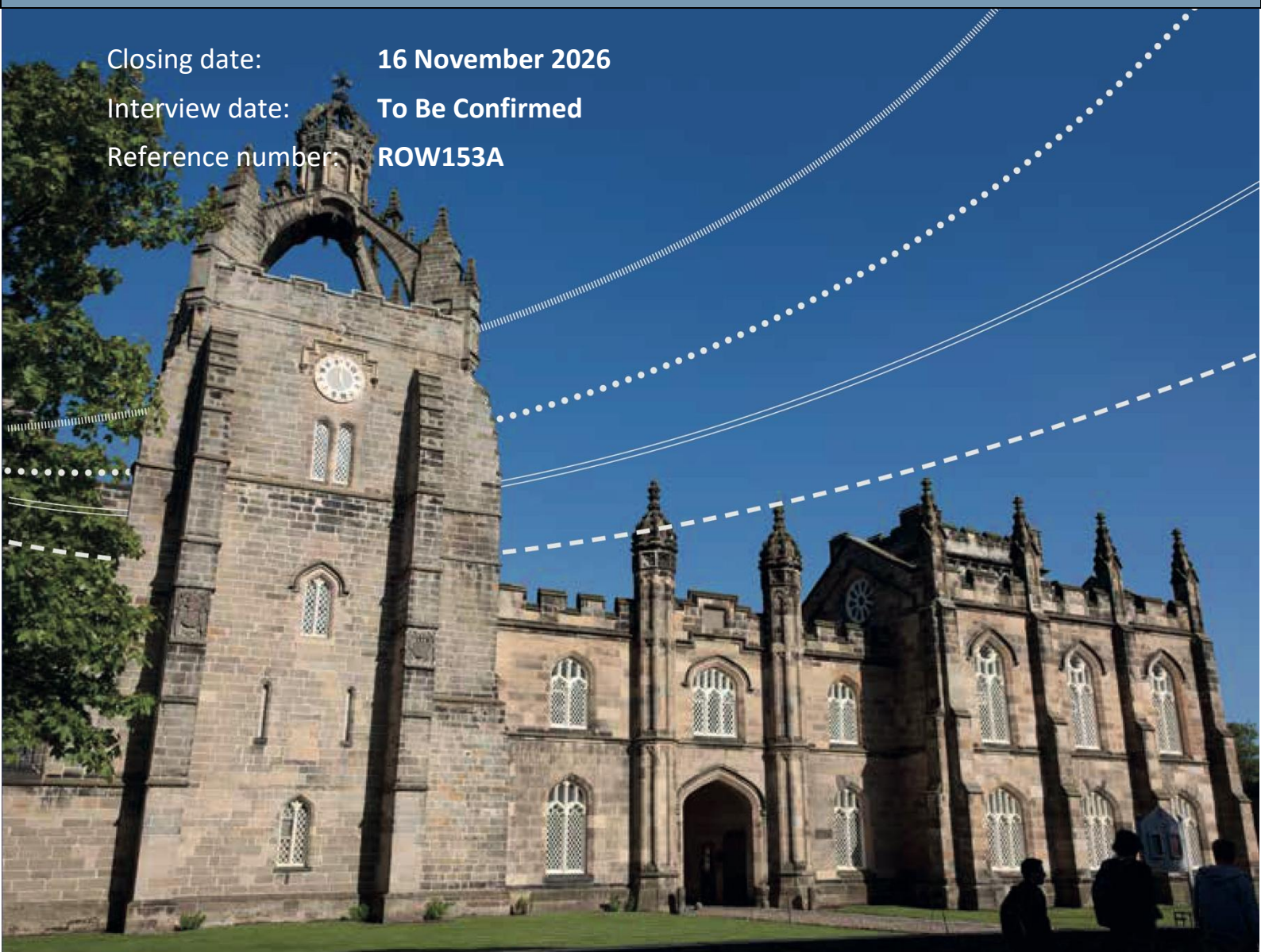
Lecturer (Scholarship) in Obesity and Metabolic Health

*ROWETT INSTITUTE,
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MEDICAL SCIENCES & NUTRITION*

Closing date: **16 November 2026**

Interview date: **To Be Confirmed**

Reference number: **ROW153A**



INTRODUCTION

The University of Aberdeen is seeking an outstanding and enthusiastic **Lecturer Scholarship** to play a leading role in the development and delivery of an innovative new postgraduate taught programme focused on **Obesity and Metabolic Health**.

This is a unique opportunity to help shape a world-leading educational programme at a time when advances in obesity therapeutics, including GLP-1 receptor agonists and related medicines, are transforming healthcare, clinical practice and public health worldwide. Working within the internationally renowned Rowett Institute within the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition, you will lead the development of a new MSc programme designed to train the next generation of scientists, clinicians and industry leaders working in obesity, metabolic disease, appetite regulation and gut-brain biology.

The University of Aberdeen combines a five-century long tradition of excellence with a modern, student-centred approach to education. Recognised as outstanding in teaching, student experience and health-related research, the University of Aberdeen is home to the internationally renowned School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition and the Rowett Institute, a global leader in nutrition, metabolism, obesity and human health research. This vibrant academic community brings together expertise spanning neuroscience, physiology, nutrition, public health and clinical medicine, providing an exceptional environment for innovative educational programmes training the next generation of leaders in metabolic health and obesity science.

This appointment represents a rare opportunity to shape an international flagship educational initiative and strengthen Aberdeen's position as a global leader in nutrition, obesity science, metabolic medicine and gut-brain signalling. The successful applicant will be based in the **Rowett Institute**. We welcome applications from ambitious and talented educators who are inspired by the challenge of developing a distinctive, innovative and internationally recognised MSc programme.

JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The post holder will play a central role in the creation, development and delivery of an innovative new MSc in Obesity and Metabolic Health, designed to position the University of Aberdeen at the forefront of education in one of the most rapidly evolving areas of medicine and biomedical science.

Responsibilities include the delivery of lectures, practical classes and small-group teaching, assessment, course leadership, student supervision and academic support, helping to create an outstanding and inclusive learning experience. They will also contribute to postgraduate and undergraduate teaching across the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition. The role will contribute to strategic priorities including student recruitment, curriculum innovation and programme enhancement. This is a full-time, campus-based position with a substantial face-to-face teaching commitment. The successful candidate will be based at the Rowett Institute and will have the opportunity to help shape a distinctive

flagship programme training the next generation of scientists, educators and healthcare professionals in obesity and metabolic health. Job-share arrangements may be considered.

ABOUT THE ROLE:

The successful candidate will play a central role in establishing and delivering a distinctive MSc programme that will position the University of Aberdeen as an educational leader in one of the fastest-growing areas of medicine and biomedical science.

The programme will combine:

- Cutting-edge teaching on obesity biology, appetite regulation and metabolic disease.
- Advanced training in gut hormone signalling, neuroendocrinology and nutritional neuroscience.
- Research-led learning delivered by internationally recognised scientists.
- Exposure to state-of-the-art experimental approaches and methods.
- Access to world-class physiology and translational research facilities.
- Close interaction with researchers whose work is shaping understanding of obesity, nutritional science and metabolic health.

You will lead the MSc curriculum development, teaching, assessment, student support, dissertation supervision coordination and the ongoing growth of this strategically important programme.

THE PROGRAMME:

The emergence of highly effective obesity therapies such as semaglutide and tirzepatide has fundamentally changed approaches to obesity management. As healthcare systems increasingly recognise obesity as a chronic disease requiring evidence-based treatment, demand is growing rapidly for graduates with specialist knowledge of obesity therapeutics, metabolic health, physiology and translational science.

This MSc programme will address that demand while providing students with skills that are highly valued across the following sectors:

- Academic research
- Clinical and healthcare settings
- Pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries
- Public health organisations
- Regulatory and policy sectors

The programme is expected to attract students from across the UK and internationally who seek specialist training in an area where educational provision remains limited worldwide.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **Coordinate MSc programme in Obesity and Metabolic Health** and related courses, including organisation of teaching sessions, assessment schedules, and administrative tasks.
- **Deliver face-to-face teaching** in undergraduate and postgraduate Obesity and Metabolic Health, and related areas.
- **Design, prepare, and deliver teaching materials** aligned with course and degree requirements.
- **Contribute to practical classes** in the Science Teaching Hub and other campus locations.
- **Support assessment**, including marking, feedback, and development of authentic assessment approaches.
- **Supervise undergraduate Honours and MSc research projects.**
- **Support curriculum development**, including review of assessments, ILOs, and alignment across other MSc and BSc degrees.
- **Contribute to recruitment and outreach**, including school/college visits, open days, and promotional activities.
- **Engage in scholarship of teaching and learning**, with mentorship available for those developing their scholarship profile.
- **Act as a Personal Tutor** and contribute to student support activities.
- **Contribute to School-wide teaching**, including courses related to obesity and metabolic health where appropriate.

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

The successful candidate will have:

- A PhD degree in **Physiology, Medical Sciences, Neuroscience or a related discipline.**
- Experience of **delivering practical and classroom-based teaching** in obesity or a related subject.
- Expertise in an area aligned with obesity, metabolic health, nutrition, neuroscience, physiology or related biomedical sciences.
- Familiarity with **teaching software and digital learning platforms.**
- Strong organisational skills and the ability to manage competing deadlines.
- A commitment to inclusive, student-centred teaching.

Desirable attributes include:

- Experience with **obesity**-related research.
- Experience in **educational scholarship** or pedagogical innovation.
- Experience supporting **student placements** or research projects.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 7 scale, £47,389 - £56,535 per annum, 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.

Prior to employment, the successful candidate must be able to demonstrate their right to work in the UK. This role may be eligible for sponsorship under the Skilled Worker route under the UKVI immigration rules but is dependent on factors specific to the candidate and if tradeable points can be used under the rules.

Information on other visa options is available at <https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>.

Please do not hesitate to contact Grant Rae, HR Adviser (e-mail: grant.rae@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.

Due to the nature of the requirements of this post, homeworking is not considered appropriate.

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:

Grade 7

£47,389 - £56,535 per annum

HOURS OF WORK:

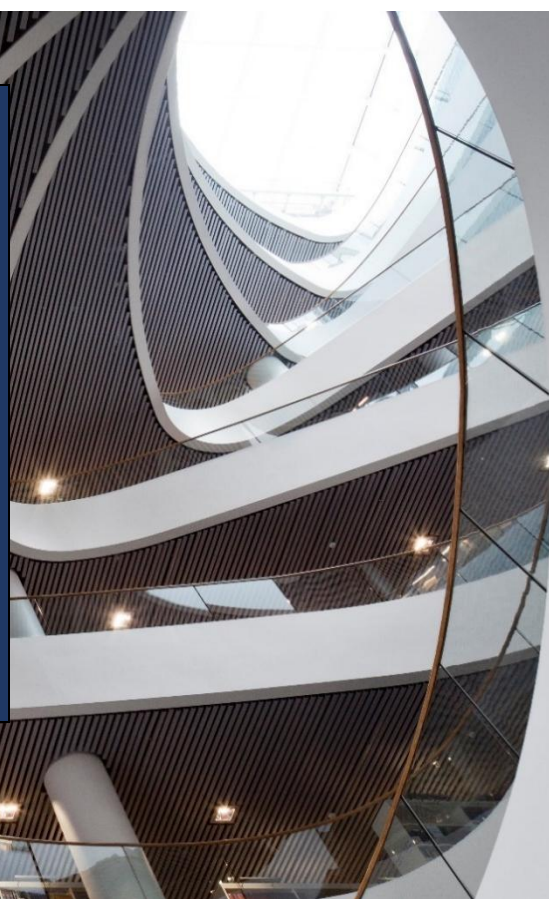
Full-time, 40 hours per week (inclusive of paid breaks)

CONTRACT TYPE:

Substantive

LOCATION:

Aberdeen



PERSON SPECIFICATION

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training	• PhD in Physiology, Medical Sciences, Neuroscience or a related discipline.	• Advance HE Associate Fellowship/Fellowship
Work and Other relevant experience (including training) e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research	• Experience delivering practical and classroom teaching • Experience with assessment and feedback	• Experience with Lt/PowerLab; experience supervising projects • Experience of course or programme design.
Personal qualities and abilities e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills	• Expertise in an area aligned with obesity, metabolic health, nutrition, neuroscience, physiology or related biomedical sciences • Ability to teach across UG curriculum • Strong communication skills • Knowledge of ethics, safety, risk assessment, equality, diversity and inclusion as relevant to human practicals/research projects	• Experience with student placements and research projects
Other e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.	• Organised, collaborative, student-centred, proactive	

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. Our highly cited work in zero-carbon technology and global outlooks makes us Scotland's best institution for environmental research⁴.

³ Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021

⁴ QS World University Rankings 2022



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 goals⁵.

⁵ Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022

THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MEDICAL SCIENCES AND NUTRITION

The School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition (SMMSN) is the largest School within the University of Aberdeen and brings together the breadth of disciplines that underpin modern medicine, health and life sciences. Our activities span biomedical sciences, health sciences, nutrition, medicine, dentistry, and medical and dental education, delivered through a vibrant and collaborative academic community.

The School is organised into five interdisciplinary Institutes that work closely together to deliver research-led teaching, innovation and impact across undergraduate, postgraduate and professional programmes:

- 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/>

Research and Academic Excellence

Our School mission statement is 'Here for Health'. We host world-leading research that addresses major challenges in human health and disease. Within the **Institute of Medical Sciences**, research focuses on the development of effective therapies for patients with a range of debilitating and life-threatening conditions. Key strengths include arthritis and musculoskeletal medicine; cell, developmental and cancer biology; immunity, infection and inflammation; metabolic and cardiovascular health; microbiology; and translational neuroscience.

The **Institute of Applied Health Sciences** is dedicated to improving population health and health-care delivery through multidisciplinary, clinically orientated research. It is home to a large multidisciplinary group of academic and research staff and hosts the Aberdeen Centre for Evaluation (ACE) and the Health Economics Research Unit (HERU).

The **Institute of Education in Healthcare and Medical Sciences** provides academic leadership in medical and healthcare education. In addition to oversight of undergraduate and postgraduate taught programmes, IEHMS delivers the highly regarded University of Aberdeen MBChB programme and a range of postgraduate programmes, including the MSc in Clinical Education, supported by internationally recognised scholarship in healthcare education research.

The **Institute of Dentistry** delivers a graduate entry Undergraduate BDS programme alongside a growing portfolio of postgraduate and professional development programmes, contributing to education, research and clinical service across dentistry and oral health.

The **Rowett Institute** undertakes internationally recognised nutrition and metabolic research aimed at improving health and preventing disease across the life course. Its purpose-built facilities support unique capabilities in human nutrition research, from molecular biology to whole-body metabolism.

Research Centres and Facilities

The School is home to a number of specialist Centres that represent areas of particular research strength and capacity, and which actively support collaboration across disciplines. These include:

- Aberdeen Biomedical Imaging Centre (ABIC)
- Centre for Healthcare Education Research and Innovation (CHERI)
- Centre for Health Data Science
- Aberdeen Cardiovascular and Diabetes Centre Aberdeen Centre for Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Health
- Aberdeen Centre for Women's Health Research
- Aberdeen Cancer Centre

Excellent infrastructure is provided through state-of-the-art academic and clinical buildings, alongside extensive core facilities supporting biomedical and health research, including flow cytometry, proteomics, advanced microscopy, metabolomics, genome sequencing and high-plex spatial profiling of RNA and protein targets. Dedicated support is available for health data science, clinical trials and translational research.

Location and Partnerships

The School is based at the **Foresterhill campus**, a major integrated healthcare, teaching and research site shared with our principal clinical partner, **NHS Grampian**. This close physical and strategic partnership supports collaborative working across primary and secondary care and provides exceptional opportunities for research translation, clinical education and impact.

NHS Grampian and the University of Aberdeen share a deep, long-standing clinical–academic partnership that underpins excellence in education, research and patient care across the North East of Scotland. Clinicians are embedded in teaching, mentoring, assessment and research, ensuring learning is rooted in real-world practice and that innovation is translated directly into frontline care. This joint model attracts high-calibre staff and students, supports multidisciplinary education, and creates a strong culture of continuous learning and inquiry. Together, both organisations are united by a shared mission to improve health outcomes for local communities through learning, care and impact.

The Foresterhill site is one of the largest integrated healthcare environments in Europe and offers a uniquely rich setting in which staff and students work alongside clinicians, researchers and educators to solve the difficult challenges confronting health and wellbeing.

Our commitment to driving societal impact from our research is facilitated by the Opportunity North East (ONE) BioHub that is home to the entrepreneurial ecosystem of Foresterhill and the wider North East of Scotland life sciences community.

Our Community

The School brings together a diverse community of over 800 staff and approximately 3,000 full-time equivalent students, creating a supportive, collegial and ambitious academic environment. We are committed to equality, diversity and inclusion, and to providing a positive and flexible working culture that supports career development, collaboration and excellence.

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 and celebrates a diverse working and learning environment and recognises the richness this brings, both in terms of contributing to the success of the University and creating safe and inclusive cultures. The University welcomes applications from individuals with diverse lived experiences. The University supports flexible working, including hybrid working arrangements, and has policies in place to facilitate this where it is appropriate. The policies can be found at <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php>.

The University is committed to progressing gender equality across all its functions and has been a proud member of the Advance HE Athena Swan Charter, achieving an institutional Bronze award, one Silver departmental award for the School of Psychology and eleven departmental Bronze awards. LGBTQ+ equality is championed through the University's membership of the Stonewall Diversity Champions Programme, where the University has achieved a Silver award in the Workplace Equality Index. The University is on a continual journey to respond to, and combat, GBV in our community and beyond. We are proud to be working towards the EmilyTest Charter, in partnership with the charity, EmilyTest. We all have a role to play in knowing how to signpost colleagues and students to support for gender-based violence, and training and support is available to all staff on this topic.

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 staff and students who identify as belonging to a racialised group. The University launched its Antiracism Strategy in 2022, representing a bold framework for progress on race equality. Recognising the importance of addressing the under-representation of racialised groups in the senior team, the University's new Recruitment and Selection Policy embeds specific positive action measures to address this.

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. The University's Wellbeing Strategy commits it to progressing work to tackle stigma related to mental health and action to promote and improve health and wellbeing for staff and students. Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact us directly by using [contact SCOTLAND-BSL](#)

The University's work on equality, diversity and inclusion is supported by a range of networks and engagement activities, designed to provide safe spaces and raise awareness of the support available and the steps everyone can take to create inclusive campuses.

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 **16 November 2026**

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

- **Prof Lora Heisler**, Research Lead, Rowett Institute (lora.heisler@abdn.ac.uk)
- **Prof Frank Thies**, Education Lead, Rowett Institute (f.thies@abdn.ac.uk)

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Profs Heisler or Thies.

Please quote reference number ROW153A on all correspondence.