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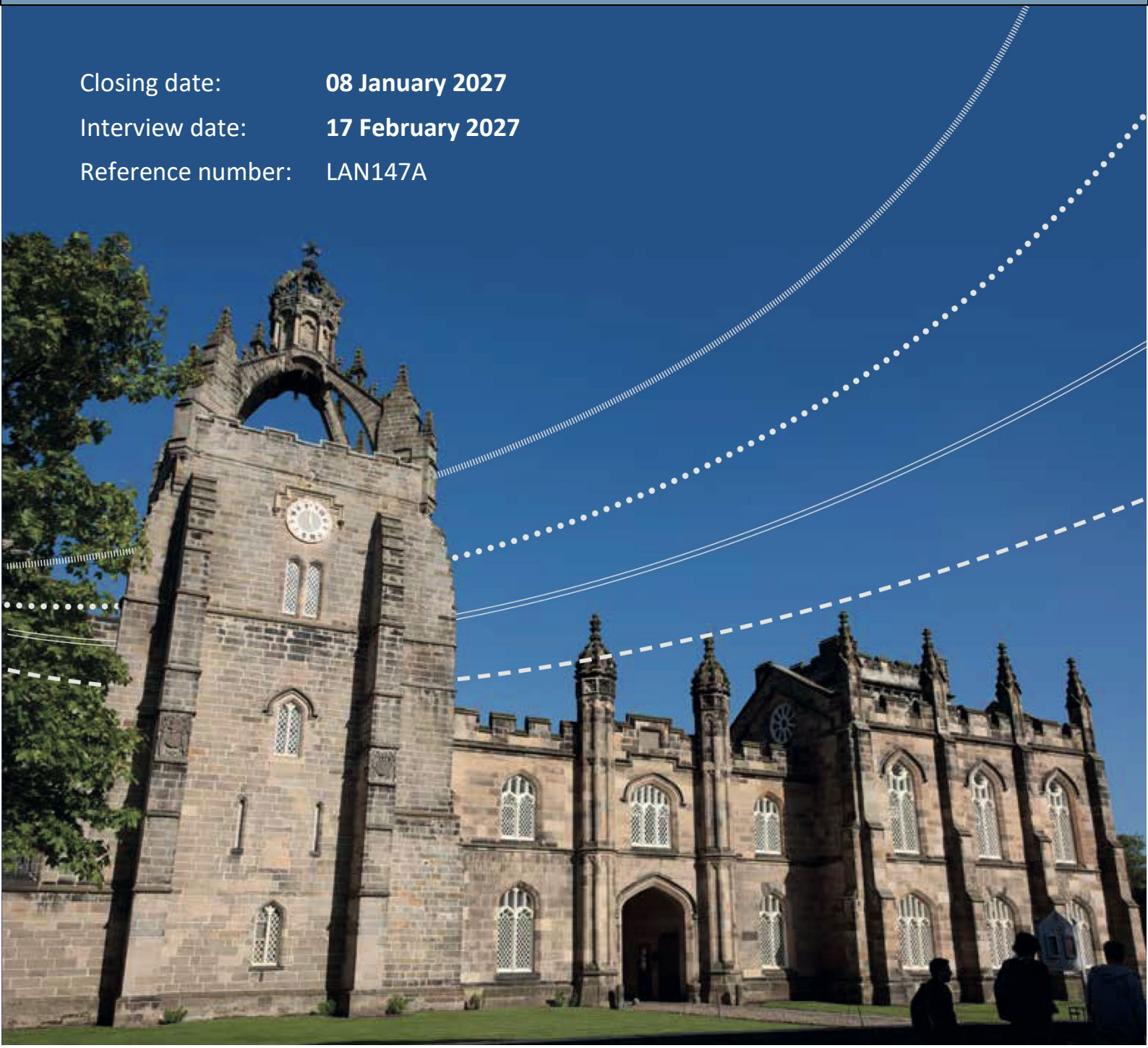
Teaching Fellow in Music

School of Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture

Closing date: **08 January 2027**

Interview date: **17 February 2027**

Reference number: LAN147A



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Stonewall SCOTLAND DIVERSITY CHAMPION

INTRODUCTION

The School of Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture within the newly formed Faculty of Arts and Humanities, seeks to appoint a part time (0.4FTE) permanent Teaching Fellow in Music, from 01 January 2027 or as soon as possible thereafter. We welcome applications from enthusiastic and experienced music educators who can demonstrate a strong commitment to teaching and learning, alongside the ability to engage, support and inspire students from a diverse range of musical and educational backgrounds. The candidate will bring relevant experience in teaching, supported by broad musical knowledge and practical skills. We particularly value candidates who can demonstrate the ability to make musical concepts accessible, engaging and relevant, connecting theoretical understanding with musical practice across different genres and traditions.

Music at the University of Aberdeen is a well-established and respected department, with a wide research and teaching portfolio maintained by dedicated and collegial staff. The department is regularly placed in the top twenty in the UK and top five in Scotland across leading university guides and rankings. Research and professional interests inform the design and content of courses at all levels of the programme, and students have the chance to study a wide range of topics reflecting the diversity of expertise in the discipline. We have a large and growing population of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, with a strong ethos of collaborative music-making and scholarship. The department has strong links with established festivals and institutions in the city, county and wider region, and is an important cultural force for all three. Music as both a discipline and an art is firmly embedded within the university and plays a leading role in the ceremonial and outward-facing nature of the institution.

The Department of Music at the University of Aberdeen has a small and dedicated core of academic staff, supported by a larger body of instrumental and vocal tutors. Department of Music staff work closely with colleagues across the School, Faculty, and beyond. There are opportunities for cross-disciplinary teaching alongside emerging transnational partnerships and a growing focus on music in the context of creative entrepreneurship. The new appointment will enhance this environment by working within the excellent academic and pedagogical context already established in the institution. The School and Department also have an exciting track record of public engagement to which the successful candidate may make their own contribution.

Staff profiles in Music can be viewed here:

https://www.abdn.ac.uk/music/people/

The School and the University are committed to promoting and maintaining an inclusive and supportive working environment that assists all members of our university community to reach their full potential.

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JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

You will contribute to undergraduate teaching within the Department of Music, including theory and analysis at pre-Honours level. Depending on the experience and expertise of the appointed candidate, there may also be opportunities to contribute to a range of teaching at Honours and Postgraduate Taught levels. The role will support students in developing the musical knowledge, skills and confidence necessary to engage critically and creatively with music across a diverse range of genres and traditions, including blues, jazz, pop, rock, musical theatre, classical, folk and traditional music.

We are particularly interested in appointing someone who recognises the value of different musical traditions and approaches, and who is excited about engaging with students from a wide range of musical and educational backgrounds. The successful candidate will contribute to the planning, delivery and assessment of teaching across the pre-Honours curriculum (and beyond) through lectures, tutorials, workshops and seminars, working collaboratively with colleagues to support an inclusive, student-centred curriculum that encourages curiosity, critical enquiry and musical development.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Plan and deliver engaging, accessible and inclusive teaching, primarily at undergraduate pre-Honours level, with potential contributions to Honours and Postgraduate Taught teaching where appropriate.
- Develop and deliver teaching that draws upon a broad range of musical genres and traditions, recognising different approaches to musical organisation, understanding, notation, analysis and practice.
- Support students with differing levels of prior musical knowledge and experience to develop their theoretical understanding, analytical skills and confidence, making meaningful connections between musical theory and practice.
- Contribute to appropriate assessment activities, undertake marking and moderation, and provide constructive, timely feedback that supports student learning and progression.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues to review and develop teaching materials, learning activities and assessment approaches that support an inclusive, accessible and diverse music curriculum.
- Contribute to course administration, student support, assessment processes and Departmental and School activities, including relevant meetings and quality assurance processes.

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

We welcome applications from enthusiastic and experienced music educators who can demonstrate a strong commitment to teaching and learning, alongside the ability to engage, support and inspire students from a diverse range of musical and educational backgrounds.

You will bring relevant experience in teaching, supported by a broad understanding of musical knowledge, skills and approaches to learning. We particularly value candidates who can demonstrate the ability to make musical concepts accessible, engaging and relevant, connecting theoretical understanding with practical musical experiences across different genres and traditions.

We are especially interested in candidates who demonstrate an inclusive, flexible and student-centred pedagogical approach, recognising that students enter Higher Education with different musical backgrounds, experiences and ways of learning. You will be confident in supporting students to develop their knowledge, skills and confidence while recognising and valuing different musical traditions and approaches to learning.

You will have excellent communication and interpersonal skills, the ability to work collaboratively with colleagues, and a commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion, including the ongoing development of accessible and culturally responsive teaching practices.

Experience of teaching in Higher Education, curriculum development and the use of a range of teaching and assessment approaches would be advantageous. We welcome candidates from a range of academic and professional backgrounds, recognising that value of both formal qualifications and relevant experience in music teaching and practice. Postgraduate qualifications in music are desirable.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 6, £39,560.00 per annum pro rata and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

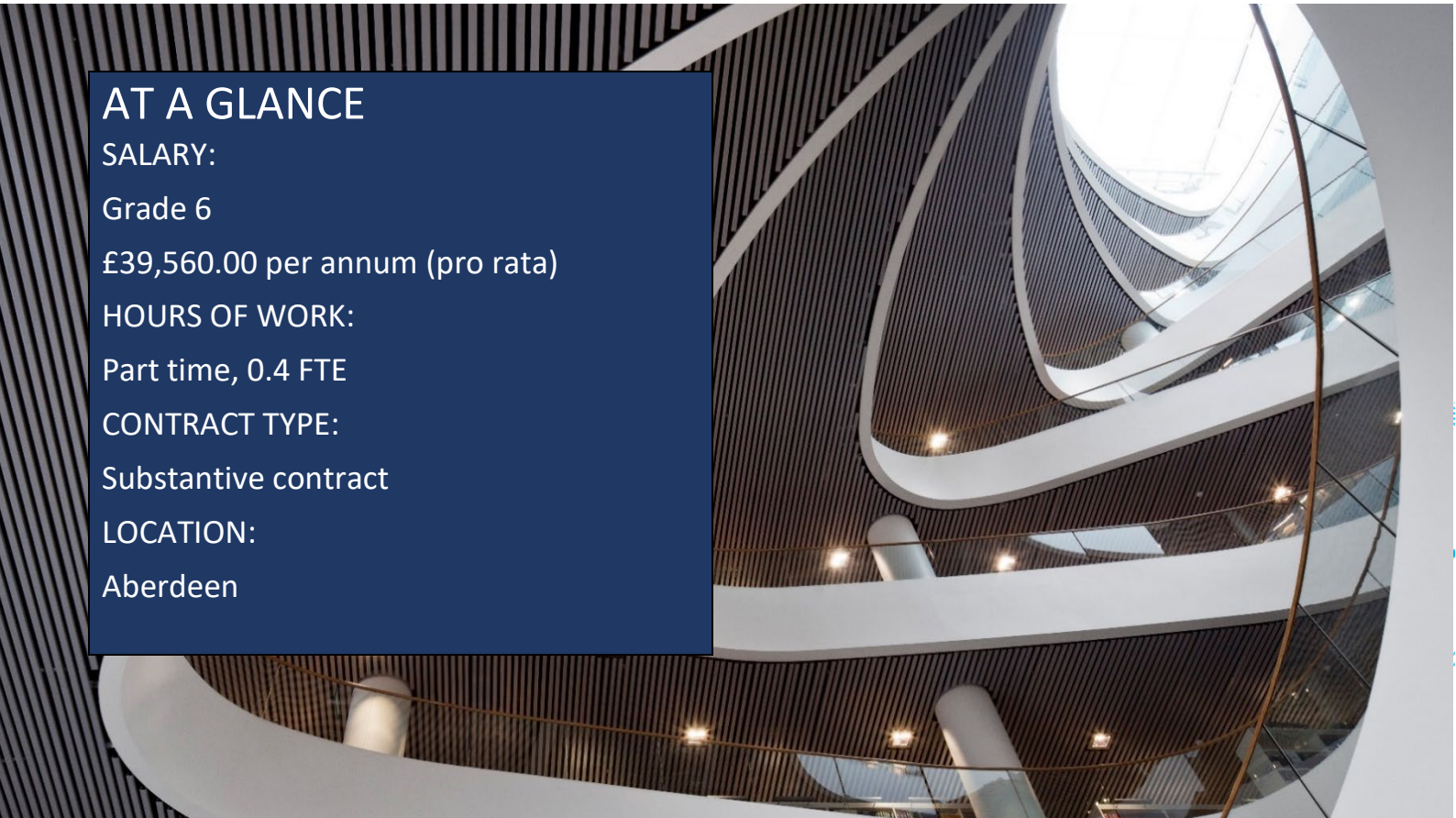
Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and probation period.

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.

This post does not meet the minimum requirements for visa sponsorship under the Skilled Worker Route. We are therefore unable to consider applicants for this post that require sponsorship to work in the UK.

The candidate appointed to this post may be eligible for homeworking on an occasional basis. For more information, please refer to our Homeworking Policy.



AT A GLANCE

SALARY:

Grade 6

£39,560.00 per annum (pro rata)

HOURS OF WORK:

Part time, 0.4 FTE

CONTRACT TYPE:

Substantive contract

LOCATION:

Aberdeen

PERSON SPECIFICATION

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training	• We welcome candidates from a range of academic and professional backgrounds, recognising the value of both formal qualifications and relevant experience in music teaching and practice	• Postgraduate qualifications in music are desirable • PG Certificate in Higher Education or equivalent qualification • Associate Fellowship or Fellowship of the UK Higher Education Academy

Work and Other relevant experience (including training) e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research	• Experience of teaching music in one or more of the following educational settings:
	  ○ Community settings
	  ○ Schools
	  ○ Further Education
	  ○ Higher Education
		• Experience of teaching, assessment and course organisation in UK Higher Education
		• Experience of teaching students from a range of backgrounds
		• Experience of teaching across a range of musical styles and genres
		• Experience of contributing to national developments / organisations in Music/ Music Education

Personal qualities and abilities e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills	• Excellent communication skills (oral and written) • Ability to work independently and as part of a team • Ability to build a rapport with students and impart enthusiasm for the subject • Evidence of commitment to the values of the School and the University as defined in the Aberdeen 2040 strategy • Evidence of commitment to decolonisation, diversity, equality and inclusion	• An interest in interdisciplinary working • A commitment to play an active role in all aspects of UG and PG programme development
Other e.g. special circumstances (if any)	• *The ability to engage critically and creatively with music across a diverse range of genres and traditions, including blues, jazz, pop, rock, musical theatre, classical, folk and traditional music.*	

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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. Our commitment to our students, campus and community has led to us being named a Top 20 UK institution in two major league tables[1] and 4th in the UK for overall student satisfaction[2].

[1] The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2024 and the Guardian University Guide 2025
[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 students[3].

[3] Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024



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 2024 we were listed in the global Top 100 for 8 of these goals[4].

Our highly cited work in zero-carbon technology and global outlooks makes us Scotland's best institution for environmental research in 2022[5].

[4] Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2024
5 QS World University Rankings 2022

The School of Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture

The post will be based in the Department of Music, within the School of Language, Literature, Music, Film and Visual Culture and the newly formed Faculty of Arts and Humanities, at the University of Aberdeen.

The School brings together a diverse range of disciplines across the arts and humanities, providing opportunities for interdisciplinary teaching, research and collaboration. With a commitment to inclusive education, critical enquiry and creative practice, the School supports students in developing their knowledge, skills and understanding within a welcoming and intellectually engaging academic environment.

The Department of Music offers a broad and diverse approach to musical study, encompassing, Composition, Community Music and Creative Health, Ethnomusicology, Instrumental and Vocal Studies, Music Education, Musicology, Popular Music Studies and Sonic Arts. Teaching and learning draw upon a wide range of musical genres and traditions, reflecting the varied interests, experiences and aspirations of our students.

We are committed to providing an inclusive and supportive learning environment in which students can develop their musical knowledge, practical skills and critical understanding. The successful candidate will join a collaborative teaching team, contributing to the ongoing development of our undergraduate provision and supporting students as they establish the musical foundations for their continued study and professional development.

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 https://www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is **08 January 2027**

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Christopher Gray, Senior Lecturer, at chris.gray@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Christopher Gray

Please quote reference number LAN147A on all correspondence