



POTENTIAL

Professor of Pediatric or Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience

Reference: R210503

Salary: £59,854 to £93,155 per annum. Professorial Band 1

Contract Type: Continuing

Basis: Full Time

Job description

Job Purpose:

To provide leadership within the Aston University School of Psychology and Institute of Health and Neurodevelopment in the remit of developmental neuroimaging. The postholder will lead and drive the delivery of world leading paediatric/developmental cognitive neuroscience research with a specific focus on imaging using MRI.

The Institute's overall purpose is to develop a child-focused research program that delivers a new understanding of development and disease and the interventions that will make a difference. The postholder will lead and support research aligning with the Institute's strategic goals: to i) unlock the potential of research to support children and young people's health and development ii) answer the questions that matter to children, families and the services that support them, and iii) develop the next generation of research leaders in child health and development.

IHN is one of the four flagship Research Institutes within Aston University, with state of the art, paediatrically tailored research facilities including MRI Laboratory with Magnetom Prisma 3T scanner, fully staffed by research radiographers, the Wellcome Trust Laboratory for MEG Studies with paediatrically optimised, Elekta Neuromag Triux, as well as EEG and TMS laboratories and a variety of behavioural observation and supporting resources including biomedical facilities and an immersive virtual environment. IHN has a thriving research culture, with strong links with Birmingham Children's Hospital. IHN has a focus on translational research from molecules to minds; undertaking cellular and fundamental neuroscience through to application within clinical, service and educational settings.

The majority of academic staff will undertake a balance of research and teaching and learning activities. Whilst ability and effectiveness should be demonstrated at an appropriate level in all areas, individuals may be more specifically focused on research, teaching and learning or external engagement. This balance will be discussed and agreed with individuals annually in the PDR meeting in line with operational needs, School and University strategy and with consideration of the individual's career goals and development plans.

The successful candidate will be an internationally recognised principal investigator with a strong track record in neuroimaging and a proven ability to deliver high-impact, collaborative paediatric or developmentally focused research that generates significant grant funding, publications and impact. They will possess the drive and ambition to deliver substantial growth to their own research team as well as Aston's developmental neuroscience research activity. They will establish Aston University as an international leader in imaging research for promotion of child health and neurodevelopment.

Main Duties/Responsibilities:

Research

- ▶ Be responsible for providing leadership, strategic direction and operational management for neuroimaging research in IHN .
- ▶ Train and develop future research leaders in their discipline
- ▶ Embrace and integrate teaching into research.

- ▶ Engage and inform the public to accelerate our mission to deliver the best possible options and outcomes for every child.
- ▶ Embrace opportunities to engage the public and external stakeholders in the generation and execution of research.
- ▶ Liaise with clinical leads to ensure facilities are managed in line with CQC regulations.
- ▶ To publish the outcomes of research, with a record of securing publications in internationally rated journals of high standing.
- ▶ To have proven experience of securing significant external funding from prestigious funders including research councils, charities and the European Commission and a record of successfully leading and managing research projects, people and resources.
- ▶ To establish partnership links with external organisations to enhance Aston's research and industry profile.
- ▶ To provide strong leadership and team building in the management of research projects.
- ▶ To have a successful record of supervision of postgraduate students at Masters and doctoral levels to completion. To foster an environment which encourages research among students at postgraduate level.
- ▶ To lead research initiatives with colleagues and a wide range of external collaborators including internationally funded research projects as appropriate.
- ▶ To conduct research capable of demonstrating significant impact e.g. research which has the potential to benefit the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life.
- ▶ To build critical mass and promote excellence in the School and Institute's research priority areas.

Teaching and Learning

- ▶ To teach students at different levels as appropriate including foundation, undergraduate and postgraduate students, and to carry out the associated examining processes.
- ▶ To be responsible for the design and content of specific areas of teaching and learning within the School's teaching programmes.
- ▶ To provide academic support, pastoral care and advice to foundation, undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- ▶ To mentor colleagues in effective teaching practice.
- ▶ To cooperate with colleagues across disciplines in the continuous review and development of programmes and the curriculum.
- ▶ To use and promote the use of a range of methods and techniques in teaching, learning and assessment including pursuing digital and modern methods of delivery.
- ▶ To lead on supporting and promoting quality assurance measures within the University e.g. by evaluation and development of modules for which the lecturer has responsibility, in terms of content, delivery and assessment as well as reviewing delivered modules, setting and receiving student feedback questionnaires.
- ▶ To innovate in teaching, demonstrating continuous professional development and critical reflective practice.

External Engagement

- ▶ To develop student placement schemes with companies and research institutions both in the UK and overseas.
- ▶ To demonstrate research impact and secure commercialisation, identifying and pursuing opportunities for translational research where appropriate to role and discipline.
- ▶ To continue to build on an established record of invited international keynote conference presentations and prestige lectures.
- ▶ To establish and lead partnerships for commercialisation including patents, inventions and other exploitable intellectual property as applicable to subject area and/or to lead to improved practice, policy development or professional development.
- ▶ To engage with translational research with a view to external collaboration and establishing partnerships with outputs such as commercialization, improved practice and policy.
- ▶ To develop research and development collaborations with industry partners to secure additional direct funding.
- ▶ To contribute to businesses, the public sector and communities e.g. through innovation, knowledge transfer, cultural enrichment, advising government bodies, contributing to and influencing government (UK or overseas) policy-making and standards.
- ▶ To take the lead in community engagement activities to raise the regional and national profile of the School.
- ▶ To enhance the University's reputation with professional/scholarly bodies e.g. by promoting public understanding of the subject.

Citizenship

- ▶ To have a sustained record of effective leadership of either/all of: teaching teams; research; and staff management and supervision.
- ▶ To make an outstanding contribution to governance and collegial life within and outside the University, for example by Chairing school committees, undertaking significant administrative positions, or participating in or Chairing University-level committees.
- ▶ To participate in continuing professional development e.g. through seminars or conferences and by engaging in training programmes run by the University which are consistent with the needs and aspirations of the academic and the School.
- ▶ To manage staff seminars, staff training and coaching activities, cross-departmental activities and events e.g. Open Days, Sixth Form Conferences, attendance at Degree Ceremonies etc.
- ▶ To demonstrate the University's leadership values through own actions and behaviour
- ▶ To undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

Additional responsibilities

- ▶ Engage in continuous personal and professional development in line with the demands of the role, including undertaking relevant training and development activities to develop themselves and support the development of others.
- ▶ Ensure and promote the personal health, safety and wellbeing of staff and students.
- ▶ Carry out duties in a way which promotes fairness in all matters and which engenders trust.
- ▶ Promote equality of opportunity and support diversity and inclusion as well as working to support the University's environmental sustainability agenda and practices.

Person specification

	Essential	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	<p>A good first degree in Psychology or in a relevant academic discipline that conveys Graduate Basis for Registration of the British Psychological Society or equivalent.</p> <p>A doctorate in a relevant academic discipline.</p> <p>A recognised teaching qualification /membership of the Higher Education Authority (HEA) at Fellow level as a minimum.</p> <p>Current membership of relevant professional body.</p>	Application form
Experience	<p>Proven ability to develop a high-impact paediatric or developmentally focused research program that delivers significant grant funding, publications and impact.</p> <p>Experienced in the use of imaging as a research tool, specifically the use of MRI with children or young people</p> <p>Experienced in the leadership and management of a multidisciplinary academic and clinical workforce. Experienced in multidisciplinary collaborations, as well as collaboration with external non-academic partners.</p> <p>Significant experience of initiating and conducting research to post-doctoral level.</p> <p>A proven track record of sustainable research as evidenced by publication in international journals and the maintenance of a portfolio of grant income.</p> <p>A record of accomplishment of having secured a pipeline of research funds from external sources sufficient to maintain a productive research team.</p>	Application form and interview

	Essential	Method of assessment
	<p>Proven experience of productive research collaborations in order to build critical mass and promote excellence in the School's research priority areas</p> <p>Experience of successfully delivering lectures to undergraduate and postgraduate students in relevant subjects.</p> <p>Successful supervision of PhD students to completion.</p>	
Aptitude and skills	<p>Excellent team-working and interpersonal skills, demonstrating collaborative and supportive leadership with an ability to motivate and mentor colleagues and form effective and positive team and inter-team working.</p> <p>Ability to develop and maintain effective relationships with external stakeholders and represent Aston externally.</p> <p>Ability to lead the development and implementation of research strategy and teaching.</p> <p>Ability to lead on the design and development of the curriculum.</p> <p>Highly developed communication and presentation skills to present research findings at national and international conferences.</p> <p>Ability to provide tutorial and counselling advice to undergraduate and postgraduate students</p> <p>A willingness to undertake further training as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required.</p> <p>Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times.</p>	Application form and interview

	Desirable	Method of assessment
Experience	<p>Expertise in MEG</p> <p>Research focus on any of the following areas: complex developmental/pediatric conditions including autism, ADHD, rare genetic conditions; language, literacy and social development; eating/ingestive behavior, food and nutrition; epilepsy; pediatric pain; intervention development and evaluation; co-design and co-production, neuropharmacology.</p> <p>Management and leadership of an academic department Management of budgets and budget setting</p>	<p>Application form and interview and presentation</p>

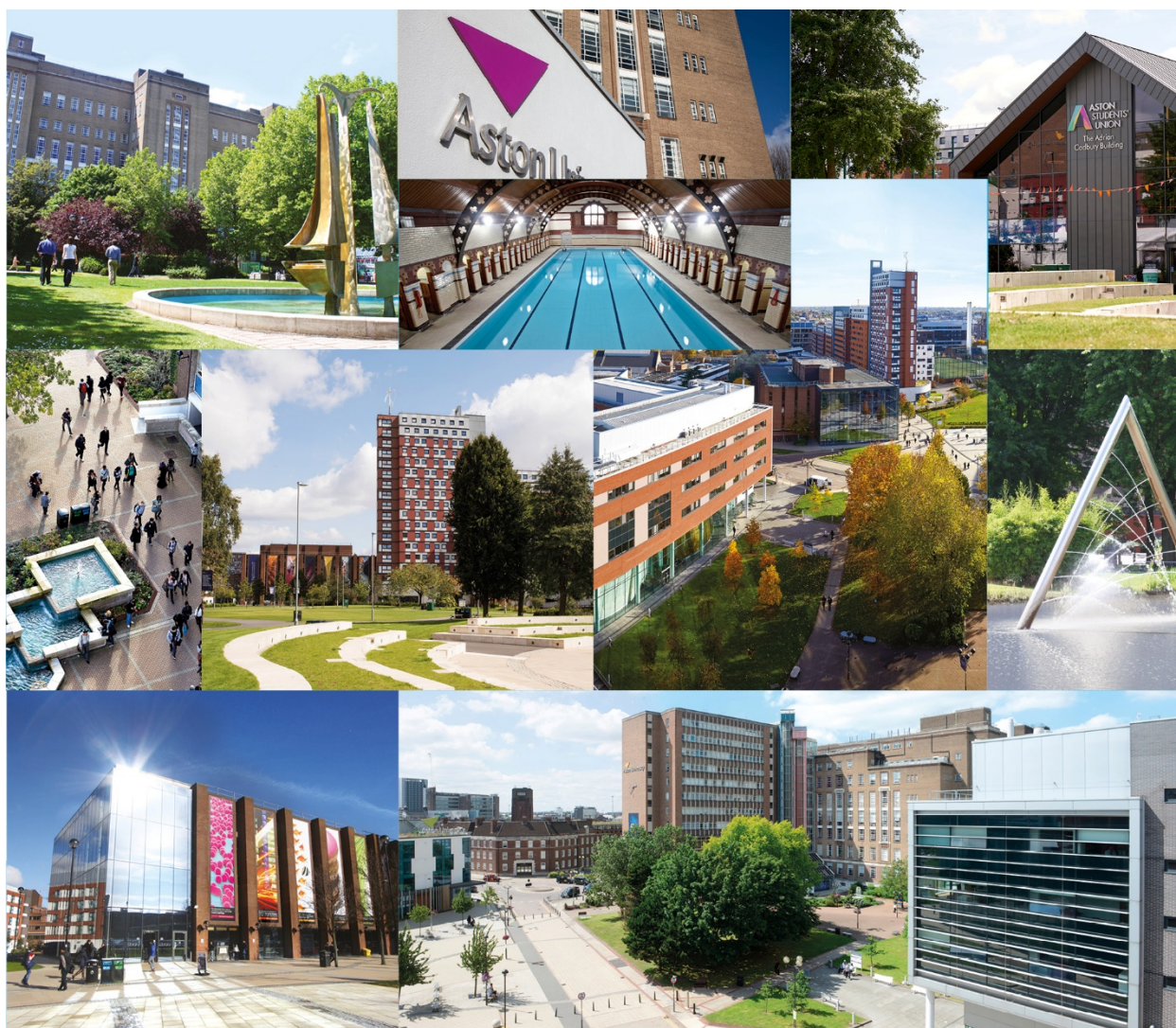
How to apply

You can apply for this role online via our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/jobs>.

Applications should be submitted by 23.59pm on the advertised closing date. All applicants must complete an application form, along with your CV.

Any CV sent direct to the Recruitment Team and Recruiting Manager will not be accepted.

If you require a manual application form then please contact the Recruitment Team via jobs@aston.ac.uk.



Contact information

Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Professor Richard Tunney

Job Title: Head of Psychology

Email: r.tunney@aston.ac.uk

Enquiries about the application process, shortlisting or interviews:

Recruitment Team via jobs@aston.ac.uk or 0121 204 4500.

Additional information

Visit our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr> for full details of our salary scales and benefits Aston University staff enjoy

Salary scales: <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/payroll-and-pensions/salary-scales/index>

Benefits: <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/Benefits-and-Rewards/index>

Working in Birmingham: <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/birmingham>

Employment of Ex-Offenders: Under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, a person with a criminal record is not required to disclose any spent convictions unless the positions they applying for is listed an exception under the act.

Eligibility to work in the UK:

New immigration system from 1 January 2021

A new immigration system has been introduced for people arriving in the UK from EEA countries with effect from 1 January 2021. In addition to those who have always required a visa, EU citizens who were not resident in the UK before 31 December 2021 will need to get a visa in advance.

You can find more information [here](#)

Candidates should check their eligibility to enter or remain in the UK in advance of making any job application via the [UKVI website](#). Before applying you should ensure that you meet the requirements, including meeting the English Language requirements. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, any application for a work visa would be unsuccessful.

If you require a visa to work in the UK the most common types of visa are:

- Skilled Worker Visa <https://www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa>
- Global Talent Visa

If you are a leader or potential leader in one of the following fields you may be eligible to apply for a Global Talent Visa:

- Academia or Research
- Arts and Culture
- Digital Technology

Please click the following link for further information and to check your eligibility for this visa. <https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>

Equal Opportunities: Aston University promotes equality and diversity in all aspects of its work. We aim to ensure, through our admissions policies for students, and our staff recruitment and selection processes that we encourage applications from all groups represented in the wider community at a local, national and international level.

The University will endeavour not to discriminate unfairly or illegally, directly or indirectly, against student or potential students, staff or potential staff. This commitment applies to all functions of the University and to any stage of an individual's career.

An Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form is included within the application form. Data you provide on the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form will be included in a general database, for statistical monitoring purposes, enabling the University to monitor the effectiveness of its Policy, Codes of Practice and Guidelines on Equal Opportunities in Employment. Individuals will not be identified by name.

Data Protection: Your personal data will be processed in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation ((EU) 2016/679) ("GDPR"). The University's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notices, including the Job Applicant Privacy Notice can be found at <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/data-protection>. Your application will only be used to inform the selection process, unless you are successful, in which case it will form the basis of your personal record with the University which will be stored in manual and/or electronic files. Information in statistical form on present and former employees is given to appropriate outside bodies.

Full details of our terms and conditions of service and associated policies and procedures are available online at <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/policies>

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**Where change
gets real.**