



# OPPORTUNITY

## Research Associate in Psychology (2 Posts)

Reference: 0198-23.

Grade: 8

Salary: £36333 to £47047, per annum, depending on experience

Contract Type: Fixed term until 1 June 2027

Basis: Full time

# Job description

## Job Purpose:

The successful candidates will join an exciting 5 year grant called Maximising Public Support for Health Policies (MPSHP) funded by UKRI. This research programme seeks to investigate how the public form and change their attitudes towards health policies.

Public support for policies is defined as the public's attitudes towards the implementation of a particular policy (i.e., are they for or against its implementation?). This project therefore sits within a broad multidisciplinary space which includes (but not limited to) social psychology (belief and attitude change), political psychology (political attitudes), and public health (supporting the implementation of public health policies). The ideal candidate will have experience and/or an interest of working within these spaces.

A variety of methodologies will be used throughout this project but it is primarily suited to those with quantitative experience. The ideal candidate will have experience working with R or show a willingness and desire to learn how to use R. Review-based methodologies will also be used and the ideal candidate will have experience conducting systematic reviews to a high standard. The first objective is to improve the field's methodology, which will involve a number of projects and so candidates with an interest in research methods are strongly encouraged to apply.

The candidates will join a new research group headed by the grant's Principal Investigator Dr James Reynolds, with scientific collaborators worldwide, and with key contacts in international public health bodies and in governments. This is a great opportunity for talented early career researchers looking to join a stimulating and welcoming team, with great opportunities for skill progression and collaboration.

There are two 4-year posts available with the possibility to extend to 5 years. There is the possibility for flexible and/or remote working. Please contact Dr Reynolds for further information.

## Main duties and responsibilities

- ▶ Conduct research investigating how people change their attitudes towards health policies
- ▶ Write high-quality papers for publications in the peer-reviewed literature
- ▶ Attend and contribute to team meetings
- ▶ Work effectively as a team member
- ▶ To support other members of the research group

The above list of responsibilities may not be exhaustive, and the post holder will be required to undertake such tasks and responsibilities as may reasonably be expected within the scope and grading of the post.

## **Additional responsibilities**

- ▶ Present research at international conferences

## Person specification

	Essential	Method of assessment
<b>Education and qualifications</b>	<p>Undergraduate degree in Psychology or a related discipline (2:1 or above)</p> <p>PhD awarded (or near completion*) in Psychology or related discipline</p> <p>* Individuals who have submitted their thesis but not graduated yet will be considered.</p>	Application form
<b>Experience</b>	<p>Demonstrated knowledge and practical experience of R or another statistical packages (e.g., Stata, SPSS)</p> <p>Scientific publications commensurate with career stage</p>	Application form and interview
<b>Aptitude and skills</b>	<p>Excellent writing skills</p> <p>Excellent verbal communication skills</p> <p>Excellent team working skills (including multidisciplinary teams)</p> <p>Excellent organisation skills, with the ability to manage multiple responsibilities and meet deadlines</p>	Application form and interview

	Desirable	Method of assessment
<b>Education and qualifications</b>	An MSc in Psychology or a related discipline	Application form
<b>Experience</b>	<p>Experience conducting a systematic review</p> <p>Experience conducting online surveys or online survey experiments</p>	Application form and interview

	<b>Desirable</b>	<b>Method of assessment</b>
	Experience/knowledge of open science principles  Knowledge or experience of the scientific literature on belief and attitude change	

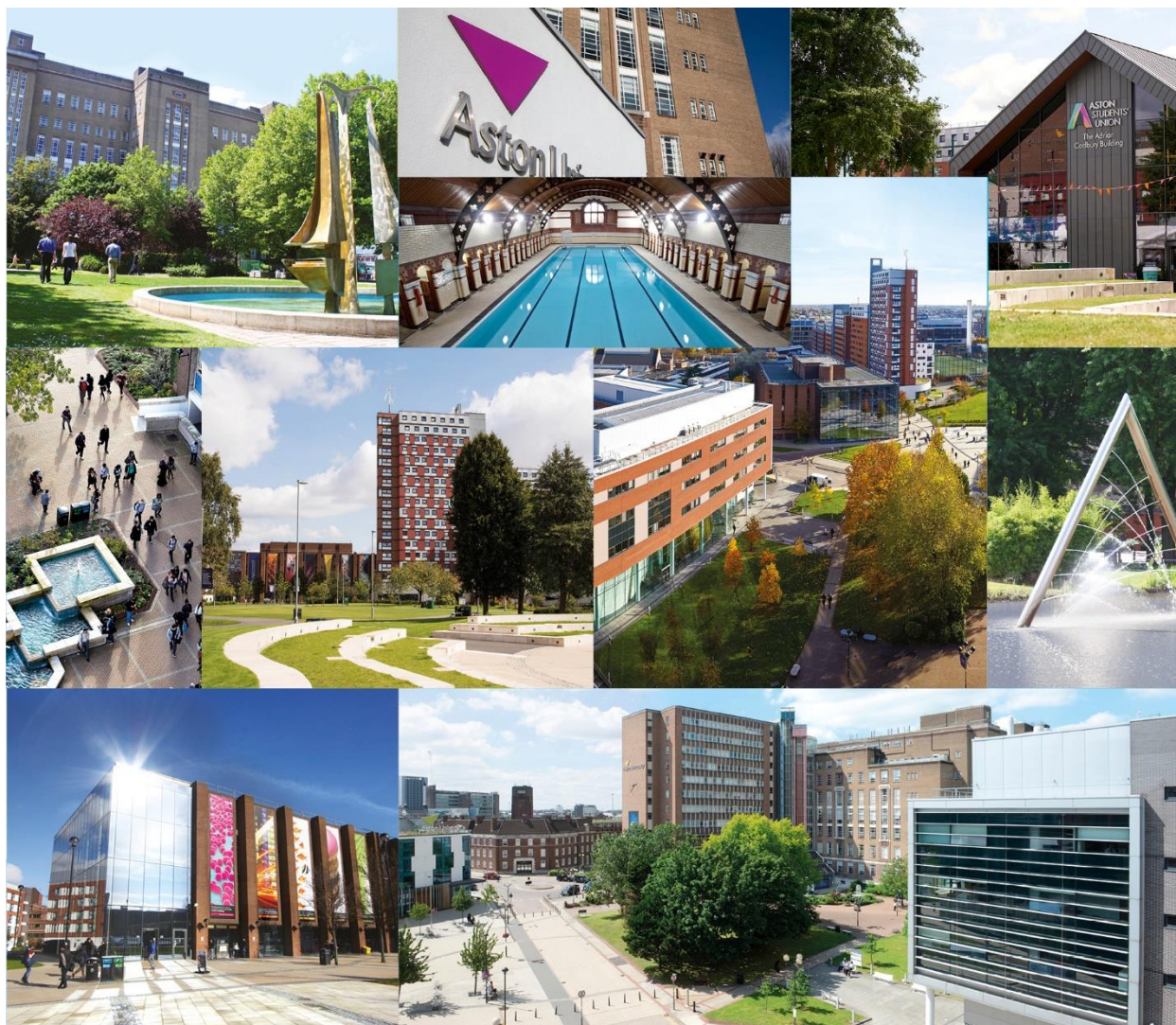
# How to apply

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

Applications should be submitted by 23:59 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](mailto:jobs@aston.ac.uk).



# Contact information

## Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: James Reynolds

Job Title: Lecturer in Psychology

Email: [j.reynolds4@aston.ac.uk](mailto:j.reynolds4@aston.ac.uk)

## Enquiries about the application process, shortlisting or interviews:

Recruitment Team via [jobs@aston.ac.uk](mailto: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:

### Post-Brexit transition period / EU Settlement Scheme

The post-Brexit transition period ended on 31 December 2020. If you are an EU/EEA citizen and you were a resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, you and your family members (including non-EU citizens need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue to live, work and study in the UK beyond 30 June 2021. The deadline for applying to the EU settlement scheme is 30 June 2021. You can apply via the Government webpage <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>  
Irish Nationals do not need to apply for settlement as they retain the right to work in the UK.

### New immigration system for EU/EEA and Swiss Nationals who were not resident in the UK before 31 December 2020

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 moving to the UK to work will need to get a visa in advance. You can find more information on the following website. Candidates should check their eligibility to enter or remain in the UK in advance of making any job application via the UKVI website <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas>. 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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gets real.**