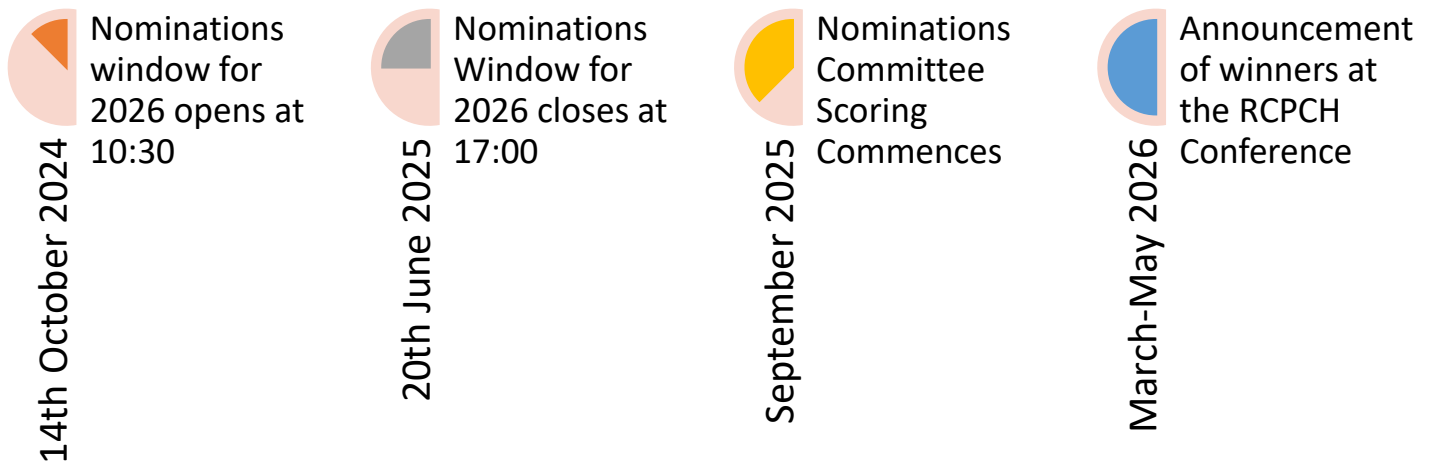


Guidance for Nominators – James Spence Medal

The James Spence Medal is the highest honour awarded by the College. The James Spence Medal is presented to the recipient for their outstanding contributions to the advancement of knowledge and understanding in paediatrics and child health.

Timetable: 2026 Nominations



Prize-Giving Ceremony

The ceremony to award recipients their honours takes places at the RCPCH Conference. The date for 2026 Conference will be confirmed in due course by our Events team.

Award Winners will receive

1. Reimbursement of travel within the UK, to and from the Conference in line with the RCPCH Expense Policy.
2. One night stay in a double room, including breakfast (Includes plus one)
3. One guest to attend the Conference with you.
4. Two complimentary conference attendance day

Please note that costs for the Conference dinner attendance, meals and travel and subsistence costs for partners are not included.

How do you submit nominations & what is the process?

Nominations for the James Spence Medal are submitted via our webform. Please use the link on the main James Spence Medal webpage. As a nominator, you will need details of a seconder to make the proposal.

Nominators and seconders must hold an active membership of RCPCH in any category. Staff cannot submit nominations. We will need to know your contact details as nominator in order to contact you, and the title and names of your seconder.

Nominees should not know they are being put forward for the award, and nominees do not need to be a member of the College in order to be considered a valid submission.

Nominators will be asked to submit 500 words, clearly indicating the reasons why their nominee is being put forward for a James Spence Medal.

Once the nominations window has closed, and are assessed by the Nominations Committee, the suggested recipients are approved in the next Council meeting. Following this, the committee co-ordinator will contact successful nominees, and all nominators to let them know the outcome.

How are nominations assessed?

The Nominations Committee scores receives and assesses nominations for Honorary Fellowship, James Spence Medal and Members' Award.

For the James Spence Medal, the Committee will read each nomination submitted and score on the following markers:

- Number and/or influence of publications, including but not limited to peer-review, and not limited to print.
- Number and/or scope of research grants gained
- Original contributions to evidence-based paediatrics
- Their impact on:
 - Knowledge in specialist fields,
 - On policy and/or public discourse
 - On other paediatricians.

The Nominations committees is comprised of paediatricians, individuals with an interest in child-health as well as members of RCPCH staff.

Privacy Statement

The James Spence Medal uses the following [Privacy Policy](#). This covers how we as a College process your personal data in relation to the award submissions, and how all information is treated as confidential.

EDI

RCPCH collects the membership numbers of all nominees who are College members and we use this information to analyse the diversity of the submissions. We also collect the membership number of nominators to analyse the diversity and to examine any obstacles of obstructions that may be faced by individuals who submit nominations to ensure that we aim to be more inclusive in the next round. If a member has provided EDI data to RCPCH, we analyse the anonymised data.

The EDI data is reported upon within the Nominations Committee only. The report may be cited by our EDI team in wider publications. If you have any concerns, please contact us on awards@rcpch.ac.uk.

Any Questions?

If you have any questions about how to submit your nominations, or if you have any issues, please contact us on awards@rcpch.ac.uk.