
Description of network

The RCPCH Trainee Research Network (TRN) was created to support the set-up of regional paediatric trainee research networks and support those networks that are already in place. The TRN provides a UK-wide infrastructure which brings regional networks together, allowing opportunities for paediatric trainees to undertake research and provide peer support and guidance.

- The TRN sits within the Research and Evidence Team at the College;
- The TRN facilitates collaborative working across regional trainee research networks and aims to increase opportunities for trainees to carry out child health research.
- The TRN will report to the Research Consultation Committee.

Role details

- The role is accountable to the TRN Chair, the Vice President for Science and Research and the Officers for Research.
- The term of office is from October 2025 to October 2028 with the option of re-appointment for a further two years.

Eligibility

Applicants must be Trainee Paediatrician and either a Junior Member or Ordinary Member of the RCPCH, whose primary mailing address is in South West – Severn.

Role purpose and responsibility

The responsibilities of the post holder are:

- To attend meetings and respond to emails and requests in a timely manner.
- To advise and guide the RCPCH in supporting the development of regional trainee paediatric research networks across the UK.
- To develop contacts and research collaborations within the RCPCH and the wider trainee research networks.
- To support existing regional trainee paediatric networks in continued development and promotion of their work.

In accordance with College policy, all candidates should be in Good Standing with the RCPCH.

- To act as an advocate for paediatric research and promote research amongst paediatric trainees.
- To guide and support the development of an online space for paediatric research trainees.
- To support regional trainee research networks in presenting and publishing findings in peer-reviewed journals and to colleagues at conferences.
- Contribute to ways the RCPCH can develop further research opportunities for trainees.

Working relationships

The post holder will work with the Chair, other Network members, the Vice President for Science and Research, the RCPCH Officers for Research and members of the Research and Evidence team within the RCPCH as well as other internal or external members of the RCPCH as required.

Time commitment

Committee members will be required to attend four meetings per year and devote sufficient time to the role to meet the demands of the role. You may be asked to represent the Committee at other internal or external meetings of the College. Meetings last 2.5 hours, three meeting per year are held remotely via Microsoft Teams and one meeting per year is held in-person at the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, 5-11 Theobald's Road, London, WC1X 8SH.

Support provided from the College

The first point of contact will be via the Project Coordinator for Research within the Research and Evidence Team at the RCPCH.

Members will be reimbursed for the cost of travelling expenses (in line with the College's expenses policy) and subsistence to attend College meetings. Remote attendance options may also be offered for some meetings.

Knowledge, skills and experience required

Essential:

- [Member of the College in Good Standing with RCPCH](#) a Trainee Paediatrician and either a junior or ordinary members of the RCPCH.
- Has attended [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion](#) training within the last 3 years.
- Chairs/co-chairs, or members of existing trainee research networks across the UK or

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- Interested in setting up a regional trainee research network where there is no existing network in place in their training region.
- Experienced and have an interest in child health research including:
 - Issues relating to trainees' capacity and capability to contribute to and conduct research.
 - Promoting child health research and opportunities to engage in research amongst paediatric trainees.

Process

Applications for roles should be submitted electronically at [volunteering opportunities](#) no later than the closing date. Your CV should also be uploaded, and we will ask you to include a statement of up to 250 words outlining the relevant experience and reasons for applying to the post. If you would like to co-chair your role with another applicant, please indicate this on your application.

When undertaking a role at RCPCH all role holders must agree to respect and uphold the charitable objects, vision, and values of the RCPCH and uphold the [code of conduct](#) which embodies of the values that the RCPCH holds the breaking of which could lead to sanction. Core to RCPCH's values is the exemplary behaviour of its members, both as professionals and also as individuals.

Appointed candidates will be asked to [register their interests](#). This is to ensure that personal circumstances that might compromise a volunteer's ability to be seen as acting correctly are properly disclosed.

The role holder must be committed to following the College's safer working practices guidelines when working with children, young people and adults at risk.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, with the role holder required to comply with the College's Safeguarding policy. Appointed candidates must also have attended Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training within the last 3 years.

The College may – at its discretion and with the agreement of the candidates – choose to offer this role as a job-share between more than one candidate once the appointment process is complete. Details will be discussed with candidates at the time should this arise.

The RCPCH wants to represent all the communities we serve and are dedicated to creating an inclusive working environment. The College is particularly keen to receive applications from those who belong to an underrepresented group as defined in the equality act 2010, including age, disability, sex, race, religion or belief, gender reassignment, married or in a civil partnership, pregnancy/parental leave, or sexual orientation.

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The College is a disability confident leader, please let us know if you require any reasonable adjustments or accommodations as a result of a disability, impairment or health condition.

Members can also receive support to cover the costs of caring responsibilities, where these responsibilities would otherwise prevent them from undertaking voluntary work for the College, as per the [removing barriers](#) fund. Claims must be submitted using the appropriate form and the College should be made aware of these requests at least a month in advance. For further information please contact edi@rcpch.ac.uk.

Eligible candidates who have the required knowledge, skills and experience may be invited to attend an interview either at the College's Offices or via tele-conferencing. Following the interview, a recommendation will be made to the Network on any appointment.

Personal information about unsuccessful candidates will be held for 6 months after the position has been filled, it will then be securely destroyed. Personal information about successful candidates will be retained on their membership file. The information contained in this will be kept secure and will only be used for purposes directly relevant to that person's responsibilities as a committee member. Please also refer to the [membership privacy notice](#) which explains how we will use the data we collect from you.

Dr Jan Dudley
Registrar
2025

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