Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health
Leading the way in Children's Health

Call for applications

Trainee Research Network Regional Representative
To serve 2026-2029
Scotland North
Scotland West

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 residents to undertake research and provide peer support and guidance.

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

Role details

- The role is accountable to the TRN Co-Chairs, the Officer for Research and the Vice President for Science and Research.
- The term of office is from October 2026 to October 2029 with the option of re-appointment for a further two years.

Eligibility

Applicants must be a paediatric resident doctor and either a Junior Member or an Ordinary Member of the RCPCH; whose primary mailing address is in the UK, within an appropriate regional area in Scotland.

Role purpose and responsibility

The responsibilities of the post holder are:

- Attend meetings and respond to emails and requests in a timely manner.
- Develop contacts and research collaborations within the RCPCH and the wider trainee research networks.

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

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- Support existing regional trainee research networks in their continued development, promotion of their work and publication of research findings in peer-reviewed journals and at conferences.
- Advocate for paediatric research and promote research amongst paediatric residents.
- Contribute to the planning and organisation of research events, including the delivery of monthly Trainee Research Network Education Seminars (TREES).
- Input into the work of at least one of the following TRN workstreams: supporting groups (assisting the development of existing and newly formed regional TRNs), education and events (organising events and educational resources), or the national project (supporting with conducting the national research project).
- Advise RCPCH on ways to develop further research opportunities for residents and ways to support the development of regional trainee research networks across the UK.

Working relationships

The post holder will work with the Co-Chairs, other Network members, the RCPCH Officer for Research, the Vice President for Science and Research, members of the RCPCH Research and Evidence team and other internal or external members of the RCPCH as required.

Time commitment

Committee members will be required to attend four meetings per year, each meeting is scheduled for 2.5 hours 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. 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 College.

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 and a paediatric resident doctor who is either a Junior Member or an Ordinary Member of the RCPCH
- Has attended Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training within the last 3 years.
- Current member of a regional TRN, with at least two years' membership of their current regional TRN or another regional TRN; or interested in supporting the establishment of a regional TRN in a training region where no network currently exists.

- Experience of, or demonstrated interest in, conducting child health research.
- Knowledgeable about issues affecting paediatric residents' capacity and capability to contribute to and participate in research.
- Experience of, or demonstrated interest in, promoting child health research and encouraging research engagement amongst paediatric residents.

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.

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 role-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.

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
2026