Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow
School/Department: School of Psychology
Reference: 25/112622
Closing Date: Monday 14 July 2025
Salary: £41,519 per annum pro rata
Anticipated Interview Date: Monday 18 August 2025
Duration: 18 months

JOB PURPOSE:

To be a highly productive, ambitious and collaborative member of the Animal Behaviour Centre, assisting in a range of studies designed to assess and improve animal well-being.

The post is a critical role, and as such, successful applicants will have responsibilities in independent research, team work, day-to-day lab management, collaborations and outreach.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake research under supervision in the area of animal welfare. This may involve working in the Animal Behaviour Centre lab (School of Psychology), or in situ venues including zoos, farms and/or pet owners' homes.
2. Design, develop and refine research using a range of experimental models.
3. Carry out analyses, critical evaluations, and interpretations of experimental data and the literature using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to area of research.
4. Produce high quality research outputs consistent with project aims and commensurate with career stage. This will include collaborating and co-authoring with PI and project team (as appropriate) on outputs.
5. In consultation with the project team, promote research milestones and outputs at national and international conferences.
6. Assist key staff in the preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies.
7. Carry out occasional educational support, supervision and demonstrating duties within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of academic staff.
8. Undertake supplementary duties relevant to the success of the project including administrative duties and additional training and development activities as required.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Undergraduate degree in Psychology or closely related discipline.
2. Have, or be about to obtain, a PhD in psychology, with a focus on animal behaviour/welfare.
3. Recent relevant research experience to include:
   - A proven track record of collecting data on animal behaviour and welfare
   - Experience of statistical analysis
   - Evidence of publication record commensurate with stage of career
   - Evidence of using online questionnaire platforms, e.g. Qualtrics, Pavlovia.
4. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
5. Ability to contribute to the School's outreach programme by links with industry, community groups, etc.
6. Ability to work closely with animals
7. Ability to liaise closely with pet owners and other members of the public.
8. Ability to demonstrate practical problem-solving skills, independence of thought and initiative.
9. Willingness to carry out data collection at weekends or during holiday periods.
10. Willingness and ability to travel to conferences for presentation purposes.
11. Full valid UK driving licence and ability to travel for data collection.

12. Ability to communicate complex information effectively in oral and written format.
13. Ability to assess and organise resources.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:
1. MSc in psychology or closely related discipline.
2. Experience of working with dogs, cats, zoo and/or farm animals.
3. Experience of using SPSS.
4. Experience in working with a research team.
5. Ability to develop internal and external networks.