

Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow
School/Department: School of Mathematics and Physics
Reference: 26/113697
Closing Date: Thursday 5 November 2026
Salary: £42,972 - 46,936 per annum.
Anticipated Interview Date: Monday 23 November 2026
Duration: 60 months

JOB PURPOSE:

To undertake duties within the Astrophysics Research Centre involving classification, follow-up and demographics of transients from TiDES.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Analyse and classify TiDES spectra and trigger follow-up observations.
2. Derive physical properties of transients including luminosities, nickel / black hole masses.
3. Liaise with the other TRANSCEND work packages to population demographics and black hole mass functions.
4. Contribute to group activities including scanning of new transients from LSST and other surveys such as ATLAS.
5. Write publications and present findings at conferences and workshops.
6. Help supervise and support postgraduate and undergraduate students working in this area.
7. Read academic papers to keep up to date with developments in the field.
8. Carry out any other duties designated by a line manager and which fall within the general ambit of the post.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain* a PhD in astrophysics or a closely related discipline, (*must be obtained within 3 months of commencement of employment).
2. Research experience in live transient classification and follow-up.
3. Demonstrable experience in analysing light curves and spectra of transients.
4. Expertise in tidal disruption events and/or related transient classes.
5. Demonstrable experience of programming and using standard astronomy software packages.
6. Ability to interact with research colleagues and support staff.
7. Ability to analyse and communicate effectively.
8. Demonstrate intellectual ability.
9. Supportive of students and colleagues.
10. Flexibility to travel for conferences/collaborative visits/ data collection.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience in working with very large datasets.