

Ref: MHS-03717

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT
THE FACULTY OF MEDICAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES
LANGUAGE, DEVELOPMENT AND DISORDERS GROUP
LECTURER IN LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATIVE DEVELOPMENT

- 1 The University invites applications for the above post which is permanent.
- 2 Salary will be £37,382 to £45,941 per annum according to relevant experience.
- 3 Informal enquiries can be made to Professor Elena Lieven (email: elena.lieven@manchester.ac.uk or tel: 0161 275 2444) or Dr Anna Theakston (email: anna.theakston@manchester.ac.uk or tel: 0161 275 2600)
- 4 Applications should be made on line. If you are unable to apply on line please request an application form by emailing hrservices@manchester.ac.uk quoting the reference number or by calling 0161 275 4499 (HR Services).
- 5 The University of Manchester values a diverse workforce and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

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Background Information

The University of Manchester

The University of Manchester is the largest campus university in the United Kingdom, and is situated within an easy walking distance of the city centre. It formally came into existence in October 2004 from the union of the Victoria University of Manchester (VUM) and the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST). The constituent Universities have a distinguished record of scientific achievement. Highlights are the splitting of the atom by Rutherford, the operation of the world's first stored-program computer in 1948, and the building of the world's largest steerable radio-telescope (Jodrell Bank). The Victoria University of Manchester traces its roots back to 1851, when it was established as Owens College; UMIST has an even longer history, having been established as the Manchester Mechanics' Institute in 1824.

World-class teaching and research is undertaken at the University of Manchester, with the aim of equalling the handful of leading UK universities which are truly globally competitive, at the forefront of invention and generation of 'intellectual capital', and have the capacity to address some of the most important problems that afflict individuals and communities. The President and Vice-Chancellor is Dame Nancy Rothwell.

The University of Manchester has four Faculties: Medical and Human Sciences, Engineering and Physical Sciences, Humanities, and Life Sciences.

Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences

The Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences have a vacancy within the School of Psychological Sciences. The Faculty has a highly dynamic research environment which supports its researchers and academics to contribute to the University's strategic vision of being one of the top 25 research Universities in the world.

The Faculty is large and comprehensive, with key healthcare disciplines represented in both research and teaching. Today, the Faculty has an annual research income of £59M, almost a third of the University's total research income. There are 6,400 undergraduate students and 2,300 postgraduates on award-bearing courses.

School of Psychological Sciences (SPS)

With the creation of the new University of Manchester on 1st October 2004, a new School of Psychological Sciences was formed from the merger of the former

Departments of Psychology, Clinical Psychology and Human Communication and Deafness (HCD). The School boasts a national and international reputation for teaching and research across its disciplines. SPS have made a strategic commitment to continue to develop their teaching and research strengths in Psychology, Language Development and Disorders, Audiology and the teaching of the Deaf and Clinical Psychology. SPS already has pre-existing strong research and teaching networks within the School and also strong pre-existing links across the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences and beyond. We aim to build these areas further to foster research and facilitate teaching collaborations across the Faculty Institutes and cross-cutting themes, so that psychological approaches are infused into many areas of activity.

The School currently has five research groups: Language Development and Disorders, Clinical and Health Psychology, Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience, Audiology and Deafness, Neuroscience Aphasia Research Unit. The first is the most relevant research group for the post.

Language Development and Disorders (LDD)

LDD is recognised as a centre of excellence in understanding typical and atypical language. It involves multidisciplinary researchers working to develop our understanding of the factors, processes and mechanisms involved in the development of successful language learning and communication skills as well as in speech and language disorders.

LDD runs regular meetings and research discussion forums. LDD has strong links with the newly formed Centre for Developmental Science and Disorders in the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences and with researchers on language development at the Universities of Liverpool and Lancaster. Our resources include access to the Max Planck Child Study Centre facilities located on campus.

Language Development and Disorders Research is organised into 4 main themes:

- Typically developing children's early language development and the linguistic environment – we develop functional, usage-based models of typically developing children's early syntactic and communicative development and study in detail children's linguistic environment.
- Specific language impairment (SLI) – we investigate the causes and associated difficulties of specific language impairment (SLI) and have the largest longitudinal study of language disorders from childhood to early adulthood.
- Social communication and pragmatics intervention research – we lead on intervention research on pragmatic language impairment
- Phonological representations and developmental speech disorders – we examine factors contributing and affecting developmental speech disorders: why some children are hard to understand and how we can help them

Lecturer in Language and Communicative Development

About the post

The School of Psychological Sciences seeks to appoint a full time Lecturer in Language and Communicative Development. You should hold a PhD or equivalent, and have research interests and high quality publications in the field of typical language and communicative development in young children. You will contribute to academic teaching

and support within your area of expertise. You will join the Language Development and Disorders (LDD) research group.

Purpose

The purpose of the post is to deliver high quality research in children's language and communicative development. The successful candidate will lead and contribute to the research group themes and provide excellent teaching. There will be a requirement to attract significant research income, to produce high quality, high impact outputs and to develop the profile of research on a global scale.

Research

We wish to attract an exceptional and productive academic who will complement our existing team and who has a proven interest in research relating to typical language and communicative development. You will:

- Undertake original research in language and communicative development that informs and is informed by the School and Faculty research themes and strategy
- Attract significant research income and publish the finding of studies in leading peer-reviewed journals
- Undertake and manage externally funded projects; including the effective supervision of any research staff and students
- Develop a niche of research within the research group that is world leading
- Actively communicate developments both internally and externally
- Contribute to, and support, the School and Faculty's strategies through the development of new collaborations in academia, and if appropriate with the NHS and/or industry

Teaching

You will:

- Contribute to teaching, curriculum development and assessment on the BSc Honours Psychology programme and the Masters in Research
- Have a role as Academic Adviser to undergraduate students
- Contribute to the development of learning and teaching within the programmes
- Contribute to the maintenance of the Programmes' quality standards
- Contribute to, and support, the School and Faculty's Teaching & Learning strategies to promote a personalised student learning experience

Management and Administration

- Management and administration, as required, of research programmes and projects
- Line management of, and responsibility for, research staff and PhD/MSc students
- Participate as a full member of the School through Programme, Research Group and School activities, meetings, and events

Person Specification

Essential Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- A PhD or equivalent in a relevant field (e.g., psychology, language sciences, cognitive science, linguistics) plus demonstrable research experience
- A record of high-quality peer-reviewed publications of international standing

- Ability to work as a member of a team and maintain good relationships with colleagues and other professionals
- Ability to work independently whilst contributing to a wider team strategy
- Excellent presentation and communication skills
- Excellent organisational and time management skills

Desirable Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Successful track record of attracting external funding for research
- Experience in the delivery of research, teaching and learning
- Experience as a Lecturer in your subject area