

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Faculty of Health Sciences

The Faculty of Health Sciences brings together the three professional healthcare programmes (medicine, veterinary sciences and dentistry) and anatomical sciences under a single management structure. This allows us to maximise the realisation of cross-disciplinary opportunities in research and teaching under the One Health agenda. The Dean of the Faculty is [Professor Sarah J George](#).

Education in Health Sciences

The undergraduate curricula in medicine, dentistry and veterinary sciences all seek to integrate basic science teaching with clinical exposure from the start of the programmes. The route to graduation starts in the University, moves into clinical practice and then to dedicated community-based facilities, where students can apply their skills to a wide range of cases, in preparation for postgraduate practice. All UK and international medical, veterinary and dental students are encouraged to intercalate onto the final year of a wide range of BSc courses in the Faculties of Health Sciences, Life Sciences, Arts, and Social Sciences and Law.

Teaching in anatomy combines classroom, technology enhanced learning and practical dissection sessions, and as well as supporting the professional health programmes and delivering Units linked to BSc courses in the Faculty of Life Sciences, the School of Anatomy delivers a 3 year and intercalated BSc in Anatomy, and leads the Gateway to Health (foundation year) programme that supports the transition of applicants from non-traditional backgrounds onto the first year of the medicine, veterinary and dental programmes. The Vesalius Clinical Training Centre delivers CPD training for a variety of public and private sector organisations in specific surgical techniques and the use of surgical implants and devices.

The faculty offers a range of postgraduate taught and research opportunities aligned to the faculty's research strengths including MSc campus and distance learning programmes, and MRes and PhD programmes.

Additionally, the [Centre for Health Sciences Education \(CHSE\)](#) aims to be a 'focused facilitator of positive action to help formulate and implement a learning and teaching strategy for Faculty-wide impact'. The CHSE also provides oversight for teaching-focused centres of excellence including the Centre for Applied Anatomy, the Teaching and Learning for Health Professionals programme, and for Technology Enhanced Learning across the Faculty. Themed CHSE conferences and seminars or workshops offer opportunities for staff to showcase and engage with innovative pedagogies, develop and share their own skills and ideas, and network for educational research collaborations.

We are proud of the quality of graduates from our [Medical School](#), [Veterinary School](#), [Anatomy School](#), and [Dental School](#).

Research in Health Sciences

Our researchers performed exceptionally well in the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF) exercise, with at least 90% of our research graded 3* or 4* in Clinical Medicine, Public Health Services & Primary Care, and Agriculture Veterinary & Food Science.

The Faculty has focused research in four main areas: Population Health Sciences, Cardiovascular Science, and Neuroscience, with Cancer, Infection and Immunity and Wound Healing comprising the fourth grouping. Two Specialist Research Institutes (SRIs) have been recognised by the University: Population Health Sciences and the Bristol Heart Institute. These SRIs collaborate widely and attract researchers from all over the world.

Within Bristol Medical School, the main areas of research include public health, epidemiology, health services research, cardiovascular disease, neuroscience, cancer, and infection and immunity. Key externally funded programmes of collaborative research include the MRC Integrative Epidemiology Unit; the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Biomedical Research Centre (BRC); the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents & Children (ALSPAC); the NIHR Health Protection Unit; and NIHR Schools of Public Health and Primary Care Research. The Faculty provides an ideal environment for collaborative research with colleagues in the Faculty of Life Sciences, the wider University, and (increasingly) with our colleagues in the GW4 Collaborative group comprising Cardiff, Exeter and Bath Universities.

In the Bristol Veterinary School, the overall strategy is to direct research towards the linked goals of optimal health for animals, people and the environment, and to address some of the world's critical challenges such as feeding a growing global population. The School has identified and embraced three overarching research themes: Population Health, Animal Behaviour and Global Food Security. These align with the wider themes of the Faculty of Health Sciences and best leverage a position of strength and international profile in areas that include Animal Welfare, Infection and Immunity, Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Mathematics and Ecology, towards the synthesis of impactful world leading research.

In Bristol Dental School, research focuses around applied clinical and materials sciences (including the clinical trials unit), infection and immunology, and life-course epidemiology and population health. Externally funded resources include the Cleft Collective (funded by the Scar Free Foundation) and the Head and Neck 5000 (funded by the NIHR).

The University's [Elizabeth Blackwell Institute](#) for Health Research, together with [Bristol Health Partners](#), is a catalyst for cross-Faculty and inter-organisational translational health research, creating an excellent environment for conducting research that can be rapidly tested and applied in clinical settings. Facilities available across the Faculty include clinical trials units, human imaging, Wolfson Imaging and animal imaging (which is based at Langford).