

1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 The School/Division

Professor Tim Parkin, Head of Bristol Veterinary School, leads a School with vision to be acknowledged as world class in veterinary teaching, research and clinical service and as a leader in food animal health, production and welfare. We aim to deliver world class research that positively impacts animal health and welfare, to promote a healthy society.

We work closely with the University's School of Biochemistry, School of Physiology, Pharmacology & Neuroscience and School of Anatomy, as well as Bristol Zoo to deliver our Bachelor of Veterinary Sciences (BVSc) programmes, a BSc in Veterinary Nursing and Companion Animal Behaviour, and a taught Masters in Global Wildlife Health and Conservation.

Our School academic and support staff structures comprise a senior management team supported by a central support unit (finance, technical, personnel, administration and student services). Academic staff are part of relevant clinical and teaching teams and are also members of one or more relevant research communities focussed around themes of Population Health and Global Food Security. Current staff numbers are approximately 100 academic staff alongside around 70 support staff.

We are located on a rural campus at Langford, 14 miles south of Bristol. The Langford estate, together with its dairy farm (Wyndhurst), occupies 255 acres. The area is in the heart of the Mendip hills but with access to theatres, restaurants and cultural attractions in Bristol, Bath and Wells. The environs offer outdoor activities such as walking, mountain-biking, rock-climbing, caving, riding and sailing. There is a broad range of housing and good schools within easy driving distance of the campus.

As a School we essentially undertake three enterprises:

Teaching

We have a major commitment to teaching of both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

A Five-Year Veterinary Science Degree (BVSc) and a Four-Year Veterinary Science: Accelerated Graduate Entry Degree (BVSc AGEp)

Through our five-year BVSc curriculum we aim to provide a broad scientific education and training in clinical skills and to inculcate a learning ethic in our students that will remain throughout their working lives. Features of the programme include the use of group-based learning (directed self-education), teaching in clinical subjects integrated from 3rd year, an extended, lecture-free final year and the expansion of elective teaching. We currently take in 180 veterinary undergraduates per year with students spending their first three years in Bristol (with one to two days per week spent at Langford) and the final two years at Langford. In September 2019, we launched our four-year Accelerated Graduate Entry degree programme in Veterinary Sciences (BVSc AGEp) with an intake of around 55 students per year. This Langford-based programme takes an entirely case-based learning approach in Years 1 and 2 prior to integrating with the BVSc for the clinical training phase. Our veterinary programmes are accredited by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the European Association Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE).

BSc in Veterinary Nursing and Companion Animal Behaviour (VNCAB)

We offer a four-year degree programme in Veterinary Nursing and Companion Animal Behaviour. Our students spend their first year primarily in Bristol studying basic science disciplines alongside their

core veterinary nursing skills training. The 3rd year of the programme is entirely focussed on clinical work placements; research dissertations in the final year allow our veterinary nursing graduates to grow their scientific and research skills. The annual programme intake is up to 50 students who study concurrently for their professional VN qualification. Our Veterinary Nursing Programme is accredited by the RCVS and The Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB)

Masters in Global Wildlife Health and Conservation

We run a one-year full-time MSc in Global Wildlife Health and Conservation in association with Bristol Zoo. Each year, 55 students from all over the world develop their conservation, captive wildlife management and research skills on this programme.

Graduate Training

Currently within the School we have approximately 50 students who are working towards higher degrees by research (PhD and MSc by Research) focussed on our overarching research themes of Population Health and Global Food Security.

Continuing Education

Langford Vets runs the School's Continuing Professional Development for veterinary surgeons and nurses, and the School runs a Continuing Education unit which offers a range of courses and day conferences designed for professionals in the food animal industry on a wide variety of topics.

Research

Our 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.

To this effect, the School has identified and embraced two overarching research themes: Population Health and Global Food Security. These align with the wider themes of the Faculty of Health Sciences and best leverage our position of strength and international profile in areas that include Animal Welfare and Behaviour, Infection, Inflammation & Immunotherapy, One Health approaches to Antimicrobial Resistance and Clinical Research, towards the synthesis of impactful world-leading research.

Our veterinary research plays a vital role in the research agenda of two institutes recently established by the University: the cross-faculty Elizabeth Blackwell Institute for Health Research and the Cabot Institute for Environmental Research. The School also works closely with the Jean Golding Institute for Data-Intensive Research, the University's flagship multidisciplinary research institute.

The School places considerable emphasis on collaboration between individuals across all areas of the School and the wider Faculty, both within and across the recognised University Research Themes and stretching both nationally and internationally. Research is supported by funders including Research Councils, Government departments, the EU and The Wellcome Trust as well as other Charities and Industry.

Clinical Services

Our clinics at Langford (Langford Vets <https://www.langfordvets.co.uk/>) provide practical training for veterinary science and veterinary nursing undergraduates and graduates. Currently, the services consist of three first-opinion practices (farm, small animal and equine, respectively), along with one of the largest small animal referral hospitals in the UK which is also supported by a laboratory diagnostic service. The annual turnover is in excess of £20 million and more than 17,000 cases are handled by the 280 veterinary clinicians, nursing and clerical staff. In addition, a number of academic veterinary clinicians spend some of their time within Langford Vets undertaking clinical work and clinical teaching of both undergraduate and post graduate students.

Langford Vets, as a wholly owned subsidiary of the University, provides excellent customer care, increased efficiency and state-of-the-art facilities, in addition to providing teaching within the clinics and delivering clinical research.