# NHS Tayside

# Specialty Dentist in Special Care Dentistry

# Dundee Dental Hospital and Research School

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a part time (0.1 WTE) Specialty Dentist in the Department of Special Care Dentistry post at one of the premier university dental hospitals in the UK. Dundee Dental School is currently ranked 2nd in the UK (2023 Sunday Times Good University Guide) and is in the top 5 best Universities to study Dentistry in the UK (2nd in Scotland) (2023 Guardian University rankings).

Dundee Dental Hospital & the Research School of Dentistry share the same building which is situated on the main University of Dundee campus, close to the city centre. There are five clinical floors consisting of both open plan clinics and closed surgeries with approximately 100 dental chairs, many of which have been recently refurbished. The hospital and school are linked to the Dundee Dental Education Centre, which includes a Postgraduate Centre, a 38-place clinical skills laboratory and various offices.

Special Care Dentistry is located on various floors across the building, according to what clinic is running. Laboratory work is undertaken by the Orthodontic, Prosthetic or Restorative laboratories as required and there are a team of dedicated Dental Secretaries who provide secretarial and administrative support to the department. Special Care Dentistry accepts referrals from colleagues across primary and secondary care and delivers treatment mainly to patients who are anxious or phobic, who require conscious sedation to facilitate dental care and to patients who have complex medical histories or conditions. We have links to various medical and surgical specialties including the Haematology, Cardiology and Renal Transplant Teams at Ninewells. Support to anxious, phobic and patients with a hypersensitive gag reflex is provided by a part time Clinical Psychologist and Psychology trainee/assistant. Special Care Dentistry is managed along with Dental Psychology and the Dental Hospital is part of the Access Directorate within NHS Tayside.

A full range of laboratory services is available throughout NHS Tayside which includes Haematology, Biochemistry, Immunology and Microbiology, Imaging and Pathology. All the laboratory results are available to view via a Clinical Portal, which also gives clinicians access to other aspects of an electronic patient record. The Dental Radiology services are based on the Dental Hospital site and include ultrasound, a full digital dental radiography system. A cone-beam CT scanner is also available in Radiology with various 3D facial, intra-oral and dental model scanning technology having been installed in recent years.

Access to endoscopy, CT, MRI and radio-nucleotide imaging is available at Ninewells.

There is a core of highly experienced dental nurses with several having completed the NEBDN Certificate in Conscious Sedation as well as those who have completed Special Care qualifications/courses. Dental Hygienist / Therapist support is available throughout the Dental Hospital and a Medical Photographer records all the clinical images on a digital system (WABA). Administrative support is provided by a dedicated team.

The School of Dentistry is autonomous within the University and has an annual target intake of 68 undergraduate students. There is also a three-year BSc course in Dental Therapy and Hygiene with 10 students per year. There are 12 Dental Core Trainees (CT1-CT4) and 15 Specialty Training Registrars throughout the dental hospital. There are also approximately 40 on-campus MSc and PhD students and 60 off-campus MSc students. The School of Dentistry has a strong pedigree in dental research with the recent Research Excellence Framework determining many aspects to be internationally excellent and world leading. The University of Dundee has been recognised as a ‘global centre of excellence for Life Sciences and Medicine by the QS World University Rankings. Our research strategy is aligned along the following themes:

1. Population Health Sciences (including Dental Health Services Research and Evidence Based Dentistry)
2. Cariology (including Dental Health Services Research and Evidence Based Dentistry)
3. Craniofacial abnormalities (incorporating the WHO Collaborating Centre for Craniofacial Anomalies and Technology Transfer)
4. Oral Cancer - with contributions to the Dundee Cancer Centre

## The Post

This is a permanent Specialty dentist post in Special Care Dentistry providing a comprehensive, consultant-led Special Care Dentistry service, within NHS Tayside financial limits, for the population of Tayside and surrounding areas. It will provide the successful candidate with the opportunity to join an established clinical team and participate in the management of adult (16 years and older) with various medical, mental and social disabilities through the continued integration with Special Care Dentistry with various hospital-based specialties as well as other services in Primary Care.

Dundee Dental Hospital & School is a teaching hospital and the post holder may contribute to ‘chairside’ teaching at undergraduate level on occasion when senior BDS students attend clinics, mainly in an observational capacity. The post is for 1 session per week on a Wednesday morning.

**Duties of the post**

The post holder will undertake a weekly treatment session, within the Dental Hospital. She/he will share with Consultant and specialty dentist and psychology colleagues, responsibility for delivering a safe and efficient Special Care Dentistry clinical service.

The successful applicant will be managerially accountable to the Clinical Lead for Special Care and Dental Psychology and the Clinical Directors for Dundee Dental Hospital & School.

**Staffing in Special Care Dentistry**

All the clinical staff within Special Care Dentistry have a substantive appointment with either NHS Tayside or the University of Dundee and hold an honorary appointment with the other employer. This post is funded from ACT(D) monies and as such has a role in supporting the undergraduate curriculum both directly and indirectly.

* Dr Abigail Heffernan NHS Consultant
* Dr Amy Martin Specialty Dentist
* Dr Amanda Campbell Specialty Dentist
* Dr Sarah Grosse Specialty Dentist
* Dr Lindsay-Jo Sevier-Guy Clinical Psychologist
* 1 part time clinical psychology trainee
* 1 part time clinical psychology assistant
* 1 full time CT2/3 post
* 1 further single session with CT1

**Teaching, Training & Research**

Undergraduate teaching is an important aspect of the department’s work and the post holder will be expected to take part in clinical undergraduate teaching and clinical assessment. In addition to undergraduate dental students, undergraduate Dental Therapy students may attend the department for clinical training with support as required from a Consultant as necessary.

CT1 trainees rotate through the clinical area and a CT2/3 trainee is usually allocated for a 1 year period. This is always a popular attachment.

**Clinical Audit**

Dundee Dental Hospital & School is committed to continually improving the clinical service provided to patients. The post holder will therefore be expected to be involved in service improvement, clinical audit and various clinical governance activities, encouraging other members of staff to participate taking the lead in these areas as required.

**Administration**

The successful candidate will have excellent written and oral communication skills, show willingness and ability to work as part of a team and work to high ethical and professional standards in clinical care.

The administrative duties include those associated with the care of patients and supporting the Senior Management Team in the day to day delivery of the clinical service.

You will be expected to work co-operatively with the Clinical Lead, Clinical Director and Clinical Service Manager in the efficient running of the services.

There is a requirement for all staff to work within the financial and other constraints decided and directed by financial and staff governance.

**Other duties**

The Clinical Lead for Special Care Dentistry and Dental Psychology provides formal approval for leave. In the event of an emergency or over-running of a clinic, the post holder may have to remain late in order to provide appropriate clinical cover.

**Indicative Weekly Timetable** (Please see Appendix 1)

The appointment is for 1 four hour session per week. The current outpatient clinical sessions are from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. A substantive job plan will be discussed and agreed with the Clinical Lead for Special Care Dentistry and Dental Psychology and the Clinical Directors for Dundee Dental Hospital & School normally within three months of taking up their post and can be altered from time to time by mutual agreement.

**Responsibility for Records Management**

All records created in the course of the business of NHS Tayside are corporate records and are public recordsunder the terms of the Public Records (Scotland) Act 1937. This includes email messages and other electronic records. It is your responsibility to ensure that you keep appropriate records of your work in NHS Tayside and manage those records in keeping with the NHS Tayside Records Management Policy and with any guidance produced by NHS Tayside specific to your employment.

Further details regarding this appointment can be obtained from Dr Abigail Heffernan, Clinical Lead for Special Care & Dental Psychology (01382 425791 / Abigail.heffernan@nhs.scot); Dr Brian Stevenson, Joint Clinical Director for Hospital Dental Services, (01382 425791 / brian.stevenson@nhs.scot) or Dr Stephanie Sammut, Joint Clinical Director for Hospital Dental Services (01382 [425791/stephanie.sammut@nhs.scot](#)) and interested candidates are encouraged to visit the Hospital and meet current members of staff.

**Appendix 1**

An indicative job plan for this post is as follows:

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| **Day** | **Time** | Location | Work | Category | No of PAs |
| Monday | 08:45 –  12:45  13:30-17:30 | DDH  DDH | Treatment Clinic 4:4  New patient clinic | DCC  DCC | 1  1 |
| Tuesday | 08:45  12.45  13:30-17:00 | DDH  DDH | Supporting Professional Activity  Undergraduate teaching session | SPA  DCC | 1  0.875 |
| Wednesday | 08:45 –  12:45  13:30-17.30 | DDH  DDH | Trauma clinic  Sedation teaching session | DCC  DCC | 1  1 |
| Thursday | 8.00 - 9.00  09:00 – 1300  13:30-17:30 | NW  NW  NW  DDH  DDH | Patient admission pre GA 1:4  GA list Area 2A 1:4  Paediatric Clinic 2:4  Paed Anxiety with Psychologist 1:4  Supporting Professional Activity | DCC  DCC  SPA | 0.25  1  1 |
| Friday | 8.45 -12:45  13:30-17:30 | DDH  DDH | Treatment Clinic 3:4  Cleft Clinic 1:4  Anxiety Clinic | DCC  DCC | 1  1 |