

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

“Our high-quality and innovative teaching in a research-intensive environment benefits our students, our patients and the public. Our key values are excellence and partnership, and we apply these to our teaching and learning, and to our research. Partnerships are key to all our activities and to their delivery.

We work closely across the schools in our faculty, and others, so that our work is truly interdisciplinary. We pride ourselves on the way we embed internationalisation in all we do, but we also work closely with our local NHS and other healthcare providers, veterinary practices and industry: this brings relevance and real-life impact to our teaching and research.

The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences is a truly exciting place to learn, to conduct research and to work. Together we are making a real difference to people's lives.”

Professor John Atherton
Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

Medicine and Health Sciences

By joining the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences you will be a part of something big. The faculty is made up of four schools:

- Health Sciences
- Life Sciences
- Medicine
- Veterinary Medicine and Science

Vision

Our vision is to deliver world-leading research and inspirational teaching for tomorrow's scientists, doctors, nurses, midwives, physiotherapists and veterinarians.

We will achieve this via our:

- excellent links with industry and the NHS
- talented people – working and learning in a vibrant and supportive academic community
- commitment to inspirational teaching
- outstanding environment and facilities

Teaching

Our students are taught by academics who are leaders in their fields, enabling them to engage creatively with new and exciting ideas; an advantage which is acknowledged and valued by employers worldwide.

Our School of Health Sciences provides a portfolio of undergraduate professional courses that provides exceptional knowledge, values and skills to deliver excellent health and social care. We also offer flagship postgraduate education, research training and professional courses to equip students from the UK and overseas with advance standing in the health sciences.

Teaching in the School of Life Sciences is very much research-led, ensuring that our courses are at the cutting-edge and students are prepared for a number of careers. All life sciences students in their final year join a research group and conduct an original research project. Some students also have the opportunity to study an undergraduate masters degree over four years. We also offer high-quality taught masters programmes, covering a range of specialist courses 'from molecules to man' and there is a vibrant postgraduate research community.

The School of Medicine trains tomorrow's doctors on a popular undergraduate medical course with a unique intercalated BMedSci, alongside a specialised graduate-entry course built around clinical problem solving and a BSc in Medical Physiology and Therapeutics. Our vibrant postgraduate taught and research training programmes are underpinned by our world-leading research.

The School of Veterinary Medicine and Science aims to equip our undergraduate students with the diagnostic, medical, surgical and other skills required to succeed in a changing world. The curriculum combines a clinically-focused basic science programme and relevant clinical learning opportunities with integrated research. We believe that the development of our innovative curriculum meets the industry need for veterinary graduates with practical and problem-solving abilities, an understanding of the need for lifelong learning and confidence and competence in their skills at graduation.

Undergraduates performing an experiment in a University laboratory.

Research

Our wide-ranging research covers areas from basic sciences to clinical translational research. The faculty provides advanced research facilities and associated expertise to underpin cutting-edge research. These include next-generation high-throughput gene sequencing and bioinformatics support, high content screening for drug discovery, a range of imaging modalities, such as MRI and PET CT, for human and advanced animal research.

The dedicated Clinical Trials Unit and Clinical Research Facility are funded in partnership with Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust.

The faculty and school research platforms make important contributions to the Global Research Theme of Health and Wellbeing.

The School of Health Sciences is underpinned by a robust research and knowledge exchange strategy. This includes six very active research groups in the areas of:

- digital health
- maternal health and wellbeing
- mental health
- rehabilitation
- palliative care
- skin integrity

We are a leading environment for world-class research according to the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF); 86% of our research activity is rated as world leading and internationally excellent with significant impact on people's health and wellbeing. We have also seen a 35% improvement in the quality of research undertaken in the past five years and are ranked 5th best in terms of research power in our unit of assessment. This includes the quality of research and number of research active staff according to the 2014 REF.

The School of Life Sciences provides an environment for forward-looking researchers focused on biological and biomedical research at the University. Our research covers all areas of contemporary biology and biomedicine from neurobiology to microbiology, from ecology to physiology and pharmacology and from immunology to genetics.

The School of Medicine brings together staff undertaking research for the benefit of the health of patients across 11 major themes ranging from cancer to vascular medicine. This includes primary care and hospital-based medical and surgical disciplines. Our two National Institutes for Health Research (NIHR), Biomedical Research Units in gastrointestinal and liver disease, and in hearing research, are national flagship translational research centres.

Research is central to the activities of the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science. In the 2014 Research Exercise Framework (REF) across the school, along with biosciences, 97% of work was judged to be of international quality and 37% of work was assessed as world-leading. The school has developed six focused research themes:

- animal infection and immunity
- clinical veterinary research
- comparative medicine
- population health and welfare
- reproductive biology
- veterinary educational research

Working with industry

The work we do depends on strong and effective partnerships with NHS organisations in the East Midlands. The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences aims to make our partnerships with the NHS even stronger so that our collective research and education activities deliver even greater benefits for patients and the public.

Our primary partnerships are with:

- Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust
- Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

Most of our medical school work is based in accommodation on the Queen's Medical Centre and City Hospital sites in Nottingham and at Royal Derby Hospital. We also partner with Nottinghamshire Healthcare in the Institute of Mental Health and share accommodation at the University's Jubilee Campus. We work closely with industry and the NHS too. Most of our senior researchers and teachers are also clinicians who dedicate 50% of their time to patient care within the Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust. This close juxtaposition brings cutting-edge clinical care to our patients and clinical relevance to our research and teaching. We are also closely integrated with our full time NHS clinical colleagues, many of whom are themselves leaders in research and teaching. This increases the mutual benefit from integration between the University and NHS.

The School of Veterinary Medicine and Science has developed partnerships with a number of clinical associates in order to deliver its community-based teaching model and to ensure the clinical relevance of its research.

A number of schools within the faculty have received Athena SWAN Awards, reflecting the faculty's commitment to supporting women and advancing their careers at the University. The Schools of Life Sciences was awarded the Athena Swan Silver Award, while the School of Health Sciences and the School of Medicine have both been awarded the Athena Swan Bronze Award. The School of Veterinary Medicine and Sciences will be applying for an award in 2016.

For further information about the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/mhs

Two undergraduate students examining sheep in the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science small holdings at Sutton Bonington Campus.

