



**Job Description: Research Assistant: Autism from Menstruation to Menopause (maternity cover)**

<b>Faculty:</b>	<b>FMHLS</b>
<b>Department/Subject:</b>	<b>School of Health and Social Care</b>
<b>Salary:</b>	<b>Grade 7: £34,132 to £38,249 per annum.</b>
<b>Hours of work:</b>	<b>full time</b>
<b>Number of positions:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Contract:</b>	<b>This is a 12-month post covering maternity leave, available from 14<sup>th</sup> July 2026.</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>This position will be based at the Singleton Campus but flexible working arrangements can be agreed in line with the University's agile working policy. Disabled members of staff may seek an accommodation to permanently work from home if required.</b>

<b>Main Duties</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work in a social model of neurodiversity which values Autism as a normal part of cognitive diversity</li> <li>2. Facilitate Community Council members and research participants' use of reasonable adjustments, for example, communicating in writing only with some participants, adapting instructions so they are tailored to individuals' needs</li> <li>3. Co-produce data with participants through the use of visual and creative pre-interview tasks and interviews which are participant led</li> <li>4. Analyse interview data using NVivo as part of a team of 5 researchers</li> </ol>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Pro-actively contribute to and conduct research, including gather, prepare and analyse data, generate original ideas and present results.</li> <li>6. Prepare reports, draft patents and papers describing the results of the research, both confidential and for publication.</li> <li>7. Be self-motivated, apply and use their initiative, aiming to determine suitable ways to tackle challenges and seeking guidance when needed.</li> <li>8. Interact positively and professionally with other collaborators and partners within the Faculty and elsewhere in the University and beyond as appropriate such as in, public organisations and academia.</li> <li>9. Contribute to Faculty organisational matters in order to help it run smoothly and to help raise its external research profile.</li> <li>10. Keep informed of developments in the field in technical, specific and general terms and their wider implication for the discipline area, commercial applications and the knowledge economy.</li> <li>11. When requested act as a representative or member of committees, using the opportunity to extend their own professional experience.</li> <li>12. Demonstrate and evidence own professional development, identifying development needs with reference to the Vitae Researcher Development Framework, particularly with regard to probation, PDR and participation in training events.</li> <li>13. Maintain and enhance links with the professional institutions and other related bodies.</li> <li>14. Observe best-practice protocols in maintenance and retention of research records as indicated by HEI and Research Councils records management guidance. This includes ensuring project log-book records are deposited with the University/Principal Investigator on completion of the work.</li> </ol>
<b>General Duties</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. To promote equality and diversity in working practices and maintain positive working relationships.</li> <li>16. To conduct the job role and all activities in accordance with safety, health and sustainability policies and management systems, in order to reduce risks and impacts arising from the work activity.</li> <li>17. To ensure that risk management is an integral part of any decision making process, by ensuring compliance with the University's Risk Management Policy.</li> <li>18. Any other duties as agreed by the Faculty / Directorate / Service Area.</li> </ol>
<b>Person Specification</b>	<b>Essential criteria:</b>



	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A Degree in social sciences or equivalent</li> <li>2. Evidence of the ability to actively engage in and contribute to writing and publishing research papers, particularly for refereed journals.</li> <li>3. A demonstrable ability to conduct research in line with the objectives of the project.</li> <li>4. Evidence of planning skills to contribute to the research project.</li> <li>5. Significant experience of Autism situated in a neurodiversity affirming perspective, including as an Autistic person, personal experience, research experience or work experience</li> <li>6. A commitment to continuous professional development</li> </ol> <p><b>Desirable Criteria</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Qualifications – postgraduate research qualifications, such as an MRes or PhD or similar</li> <li>8. Knowledge of reproductive health/healthcare in relation to: menstruation, contraception, gynaecological health, pregnancy, early parenting, menopause or similar</li> <li>9. Knowledge of barriers to accessing healthcare for Autistic people</li> </ol>
<p><b>Welsh Language Level</b></p>	<p>Level 1 – ‘a little’ - pronounce Welsh words. Able to answer the phone in Welsh (good morning / afternoon). Able to use very basic every-day words and phrases (thank you, please etc.). Level 1 can be reached by completing a one-hour training course.</p> <p>For more information about the Welsh Language Levels please refer to the Welsh Language Skills Assessment web page, which is available <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<p><b>Additional Information</b></p>	<p>Applicants are asked to provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A Curriculum Vitae</li> <li>2. A cover letter, detailing how they meet the essential and desirable criteria</li> <li>3. A statement of <b>no more than 1,000 words</b> responding to this question: How would your knowledge and experience of Autism ensure that you are able to provide excellent support to Autistic participants in this study?</li> </ol> <p>Informal enquiries: Dr Aimee Grant, <a href="mailto:Aimee.grant@swansea.ac.uk">Aimee.grant@swansea.ac.uk</a></p> <p><b>A satisfactory DBS Check is required, and this must be received and assessed before a start date can be confirmed.</b></p>

