

Specialty Trainee in Orthodontics
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Edinburgh Dental Institute and Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy

Job Profile

SPECIALTY TRAINING REGISTRAR IN ORTHODONTICS

JOB PROFILE

A specialty trainee (ST) post in Orthodontics is available commencing September 2025. The post is for 3 years as follows and is shared between Edinburgh Dental Institute and NHS Fife. The post holder will have the opportunity to undertake a MClinDent or DClinDent degree at the University of Edinburgh.

NHS Lothian

NHS Lothian is an integrated NHS Board in Scotland providing primary, community, mental health and hospital services.

The NHS Board determines strategy, allocates resources and provides governance across the health system. Services are delivered by Lothian University Hospitals Services (LUHS), the Royal Edinburgh Hospital and associated mental health services, 4-community health (and social care) partnerships (CH(C)Ps) in Edinburgh, West Lothian, East Lothian and Midlothian, and a Public Health directorate.

NHS Lothian provides services for the second largest residential population in Scotland – circa 850,000 people. We employ approximately 26,000 staff and are committed to improving all patient care and services and engaging staff in service planning and modernisation.

Edinburgh Dental Institute

The Dental Institute opened in November 1997. Located in premises on the second, third and fourth floors of the Lauriston Building, Lauriston Place, its central location within Edinburgh is readily accessible by train, bus and car.

It provides all aspects of specialist dental treatment in an environment of postgraduate education and research for NHS Lothian and the University. Within NHS Lothian, it is part of the Oral Health Service, a Lothian-wide service with an approximate headcount of 460 staff operating out of 36 locations including the dental hospital, health centres, hospitals, dedicated dental centres, dental laboratories, specialist decontamination units and administrative bases.

Within the University, the Institute is part of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine of the University of Edinburgh. The Institute hosts a Dental Care Professionals School that provides training for Dental Therapists (as a 4-year BSc Hons in Oral Health Science through the University of Edinburgh), Dental Nurses and Orthodontic Nurses and Orthodontic Therapists. In addition, the Institute offers opportunities for research and education for all members of the Dental Team and there are unrivalled opportunities for development of the clinical service, research and teaching across a wide range of areas and interests.

Working in partnership with NHS Education for Scotland (NES), the Institute provides Dental Core and Specialty Training in a number of dental specialties. The Edinburgh Dental Education Centre (EDEC) which is also located in the Lauriston Building.

The Institute has excellent, modern facilities including:

- 58 fully equipped open-plan treatment cubicles and enclosed surgeries with facilities for both inhalation and IV sedation in some.
- An in-house Dental Laboratory, which provides all technical work necessary for specialist patient care.

The main clinical disciplines are:

- Orthodontics
- Paediatric Dentistry
- Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
- Oral Surgery (including Oral Medicine)
- Restorative Dentistry

The clinical areas are based on the 2nd and 3rd floors of the Lauriston Building.

On the 2nd floor there is also a state of the art Clinical Skills facility that provides 24 phantom heads across a flexible teaching space that can be divided into two depending on class size. Recent audio visual upgrade has provided users with the latest microscopic and camera functions at individual work-stations.

There are hospitality areas on both the 2nd and 4th floors of the Institute as well as study areas for both Postgraduate (PhD and Masters) and Undergraduate students.

Staff also have access to a staff room with excellent facilities for rest breaks.

The Orthodontic Department

The Department has a history of postgraduate training at a number of levels. It is part of the South East of Scotland Specialist Training Programme (M.Clin Dent/D. Clin Dent. /M.Orth), which currently has four postgraduate students.

The Department is also involved in the delivery of the Orthodontic Therapy Training Programme.

A comprehensive range of malocclusions is managed within the Department but there is a bias towards multidisciplinary treatment. The conventional straight wire system is predominantly used. Digital workflows have recently been introduced to enhance the clinical provision.

Multidisciplinary clinics are held regularly with Oral Maxillofacial, Restorative and Paediatric colleagues. A number of combined clinics for cleft lip/palate patients are held with the plastic surgeon/ENT and paediatricians

The Department is the centre for Orthognathic treatment within the Lothian and Borders regions. Additionally it is a designated centre for the management of cleft lip and palate within the Scottish Managed Clinical Network, CleftSiS.

Consultants

Mr Colin Ritchie	Edinburgh Dental Institute	1.0 WTE
Ms Carrie Whyte	Edinburgh Dental Institute	0.6 WTE
Mr Nirmal Shah	Edinburgh Dental Institute	0.6 WTE

Dr. Niall McGuinness Edinburgh Dental Institute 0.4 WTE

Non-Consultant Staff

2 Specialty trainees (1 this post)

1 Clinical Fellow

4 Postgraduate students

Orthodontic Therapist / hygienist 0.4 WTE

Orthodontic Therapist 0.6 WTE

NHS Fife

NHS Fife provides healthcare to over 367,000 residents of Fife and employs around 8,700 staff. As a large rural area with varied geography and several centres of population, there are particular challenges to meet the health needs of the people of Fife.

Fife is home to two large hospitals - the Victoria Hospital, a district general in the centre of the Kingdom; and Queen Margaret Hospital in West Fife. The majority of NHS Fife's acute services are provided from the Victoria Hospital in the town of Kirkcaldy. The Queen Margaret Hospital in Dunfermline is home to a considerable number of community and therapy services, alongside a minor injuries unit and a state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment centre.

Fife is home to a further eight community hospitals spread across the Kingdom; Lynebank Hospital in Dunfermline; Glenrothes Hospital; Whyteman's Brae Hospital in Kirkcaldy, Cameron Hospital in Windygate, Randolph Wemyss Memorial Hospital in Buckhaven, Stratheden Hospital in Springfield, Adamson Hospital in Cupar and; St Andrews Community Hospital

In addition, there is also a wide range of Primary Care services available in Fife. There are 55 GP practices, 59 Dentists, 46 Opticians and 85 community pharmacies throughout Fife

Victoria Hospital Kirkcaldy

The Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy is one of the two main hospitals in the Fife Acute Hospitals NHS Trust and provides the orthodontic service one would expect from a large District General Hospital serving a population of over 350,000. The thriving and dynamic Victoria Hospital Orthodontic Department has been recently fully refurbished with five dental chairs situated within four surgeries and has excellent on site laboratory and secretarial support.

Consultants

Ms. Fiona Irving (Clinical Lead)

1.0 WTE

Prof David Bearn	0.5 WTE
Mr Nirmal Shah	0.3 WTE

Non-Consultant Staff

3 Specialty trainees (1 this post)	
Orthodontic Therapist	0.6 WTE
Hygienist	0.4 WTE
Senior dental Nurse	1.0 WTE
Specialist Orthodontic Nurses	4.6 WTE
Orthodontic technicians (laboratory on site)	2.6 WTE

The Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department of the Fife Acute Hospital NHS Trust has four Consultants with training and support staff and works closely with the Orthodontic Department having weekly joint orthognathic clinic and monthly joint dento-alveolar clinics.

In addition there are twice monthly joint hypodontia clinics with Dr Ryan Higgins, Consultant in Restorative Dentistry and bimonthly joint paediatric dentistry / Orthodontic clinics with Ms Hannah Collins, Specialist in Pediatric Dentistry based in the PDS on the Victoria Hospital site.

The Orthodontic Department at the Victoria Hospital Kirkcaldy is designated for the management and audit of patients with Cleft Lip and Palate within the Scottish Managed Clinical Network for patients with clefts (Cleft Care Scotland).

Geographically, Kirkcaldy is situated in the heart of Fife being 24 miles from St Andrews, approximately 30 miles from Edinburgh and Dundee and 55 miles from Glasgow.

Duties and Responsibilities

The post holder is responsible to the Clinical Leads, Miss Fiona Irving (NHS Fife), and Dr Colin Ritchie (NHS Lothian) who are in charge of the clinical programme during the period of training. The duties of the post include:

- a. History taking and treatment planning for new patients in conjunction with the relevant Consultant Orthodontist,
- b. Treatment of patients under supervision with a wide range of malocclusions of varying complexity.
- c. The management of multidisciplinary cases which will be associated with attendance at the combined clinics held with colleagues in Oral and Maxillofacial specialties, Paediatric and Restorative Dentistry.

Study and Training

This training programme has been recognised by the SAC and STC (Scotland) for a three-year training period for qualification to sit for the Membership / Fellowship in Orthodontics. The post provides formal and informal training through the Scotland-Wide Orthodontic Programme (SWOP) for Specialty Trainees and instruction in orthodontics including technical and typodont work. The Training Programme Director (Prof David Bearn) in conjunction with the Assigned Educational Supervisor carries out performance assessments and reviews and there are also regular appraisal interviews.

It will comprise on a weekly basis six treatment sessions, and one diagnostic clinic (multidisciplinary and new patients) the remainder of the time split between formal tuition and personal study.

Timetable: (this is for illustration only and may be subject to amendment)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	EDI	EDI	VHK	VHK	SWOP (various)
AM	Dr. Ritchie Personal tx	Dr Shah Personal tx	Dr.Irving Personal tx	Prof. Bearn Personal tx	Seminars/ lectures
PM	Dr Ritchie Personal tx	Dr Whyte NP Clinic	Dr Irving Personal treatment	Prof Bearn Personal tx / NP clinic	Seminars/ lectures

The person appointed will be expected to take advantage of undertaking studying and research in the facilities available and full encouragement will be given to the development of a research project. The facilities provided by the Erskine Medical Library in George Square are available for the use of the incumbent. These include extensive medical and dental references together with terminals for all the computerised literature searches. In addition a wide range of journals are available in the building and inter-library loans are available. Help and practical advice in the use of computers both for analysis and research purposes is available in Edinburgh and Fife, as are the facilities of Medical Illustration.

Additional Information

Terms and Conditions of Service for Hospital Medical and Dental Staff (Scotland) will apply. The new appointment is full-time and non-resident and the contract is based on the standard working week of 40 hours. The holder of this post will provide mutual cover as required for the annual and study leave of colleagues.

He/she will be prepared to perform duties in occasional emergencies and unforeseen circumstances without additional remuneration but may be granted time off in lieu at the discretion of the employing authority. Commitments arising in such circumstances are, however, exceptional and practitioners should not be required to undertake work of this kind for prolonged periods or on a regular basis.

A medical examination prior to appointment will be necessary

No Smoking Policy: In recognising the danger to health of smoking, NHS Lothian has implemented a smoking ban throughout all its premises including all areas within the boundaries of the Board's properties. There are no circumstances in which employees are permitted to smoke on the premises.

Equal Opportunities: NHS Lothian is an equal opportunities employer and all employees and potential employees will be treated equally and fairly and decisions on recruitment, selection, training and personal development will be based solely on objective and job related criteria, irrespective of their gender, age, race, disability, background, sexuality and religion.

Registration: Prospective applicants are required to be fully registered with the General Dental Council.

Transport: Full driving licence is required or the ability to arrange alternative transport to meet requirements of the post.

Application information

Date when post is vacant: September 2025

For Preliminary Discussion Contact:

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East Scotland)
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FIFE
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