

Job Title: Research Associate

Grade: 7

Salary: £39,906 per annum, due to external funding restrictions. Pro-rata if part-time

Department: School of Chemistry

Hours/Contract: Full-time or job share, fixed term contract from 1 April 2026 to 30 September 2026

Reference: 12858

Role Purpose

To conduct research as a post-doctoral Research Associate within the group of Dr Pulis as part of an EPSRC funded project. The project will develop new approaches to chemical synthesis using organoborane catalysis with a focus on molecules that are relevant to drug discovery.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- To undertake research in the group of Dr Pulis as part of an EPSRC funded project.
- To lead in the collection, evaluation and interpretation of the research data, and work independently and as part of a team as required to attain project milestones.
- To write up the research data and findings for dissemination amongst the research team and the broader scientific community, including for example journal articles, reviews, book chapters.
- To lead discussions and give regular research updates in person with the PI, and in group meetings.
- To contribute to the development of the broader research programme, this may include contributing to the writing of research grants.
- To represent the research group by disseminating results/findings at national and international conferences.
- To provide supervision and guidance to other staff and students within the research group.
- In agreement with the PI, liaise with project collaborators to progress the research.

Professional Development

- To engage in work that support your own professional development.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange

- To network and contribute to the maintaining and furthering of the wider research programme and research area.
- To contribute to industry collaborations.

Leadership and Citizenship

- To be prepared to take a leading role in advancing projects from an experimental and intellectual standpoint.
- To provide guidance to other team members.
- To pro-actively build networks and collaborations.





Internal and External Relationships

- Regular meetings with members of the research group.
- Meeting members of the department for discussion of the research and exchange of new ideas and approaches that might benefit the research.
- Liaise with external collaborators.

Planning and Organising

You will be required to effectively manage your time and plan your research activities. To deliver on the priorities of the project, you will:

- Prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules;
- Plan for specific aspects of research incorporating issues such as deadlines, project milestones and overall research aims;
- Adapt daily and weekly plans to accommodate new developments and be flexible to the changing priorities of the research project.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- PhD in Synthetic Organic Chemistry, or soon to be awarded a PhD*
- Experience in purification and structure determination of organic molecules (including practical knowledge of ^1H , ^{11}B , ^{19}F NMR and MS)*
- Experience in catalysis, organoboron chemistry, synthetic methodology development, and complex multistep synthesis (including late-stage functionalisation or total synthesis)*
- Contribution to the preparation of peer-reviewed journal articles*
- Experience in supervising post-graduate and undergraduate students on research projects*

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- To work independently
- To work in a team
- To have good communication skills, including written and verbal
- To be a collegiate member of a research team

****Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***

Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.





Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are encouraged to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We encourage all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required. If supporting these activities is likely to affect your workload, please speak to your line manager in the first instance

University Values

Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Freedom of Speech

The University is committed to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law throughout our recruitment processes. We ensure that all candidates are considered based on merit and suitability for the role, without regard to their lawful viewpoints or the expression of challenging or controversial ideas. Our recruitment policies and practices are designed to protect applicants from discrimination or adverse treatment on the basis of their opinions, and to foster an environment where open debate and diverse perspectives are valued as essential to our academic mission.

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equality support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equality, diversity and inclusion.

