



Child Health Outcomes Research at Leeds (CHORAL)

Post-doctoral Funded Fellowships Guidance Notes

Closing date for applications: Friday 16th January 2026

1. Introduction

CHORAL aims to improve children's lives through the delivery of a sustainable programme of transformative research focussed on child health. We will harness and coordinate the world-leading children's research across the Leeds City Region and create the optimal research infrastructure and environment to drive ***better health and social outcomes*** for children and young people (CYP) across Yorkshire.

We will create a world-leading platform of academic excellence in children's health care through developing a co-ordinated programme to train and support child health researchers.

For more about CHORAL and our multi-disciplinary research groups: <https://choralresearch.org.uk/>

2. Background to this call

Leeds has been successful in supporting registered healthcare professionals in applying for, and being successful in, NIHR personal fellowships. In 2017 Medical Research Council survey showed Leeds was hosting the third highest number of allied health professional fellowships in England. Since launching CHORAL we have increased efforts to further develop this cadre of child health researchers and enhance the support available to them. We are delighted to announce that we now have funding for CHORAL Fellowships to support the development of competitive post-doctoral research applications.

3. CHORAL will provide the following Fellowships:

Post-doctoral Bridging Scheme (Healthcare Professionals)

In recognition for the need to support early career healthcare professional (nurses, allied health professionals, healthcare scientists, pharmacists, dental technicians) researchers in facilitating the transition from doctoral to post-doctoral status and securing competitive fellowship funding, four fellowships are available for individuals following completion of their PhD (non-medically qualified individuals only).

The CHORAL post-doctoral funding opportunity will provide protected time to **LTHT employees** to prepare for a competitive post-doctoral fellowship in addition to continuing with their clinical career.

The CHORAL Fellowship funding is allocated to allow the award holder to develop a competitive funding application. This follow-on funding application must be led by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and the University of Leeds.

CHORAL post-doctoral fellows will receive:

- Up to £30,000 for salary backfill.
- Up to £1,000 towards personal career development.
- Support on key aspects of successful applications.
- Peer support from fellow NIHR award holders.
- Review of fellowship applications from senior researchers.
- Interview practice.

4. Eligibility criteria

- A staff member of Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust who is a healthcare professional (nurses, allied health professionals, healthcare scientists, pharmacists, dental technicians)
- Have a PhD in a child related health subject.
- Written agreement from their line manager, academic supervisor and member of the CSU tri-team.

5. Selection criteria

- Evidence that the applicant can demonstrate how this funding has the potential to secure successful external fellowship funding.
- The proposed project demonstrates innovation and is within the CHORAL vision.
- Proven research interest in the specified area.

6. Selection process

The application process will be supported by a drop-in Q&A session on 25th November 2025 at 10:00 via MS Teams for interested candidates

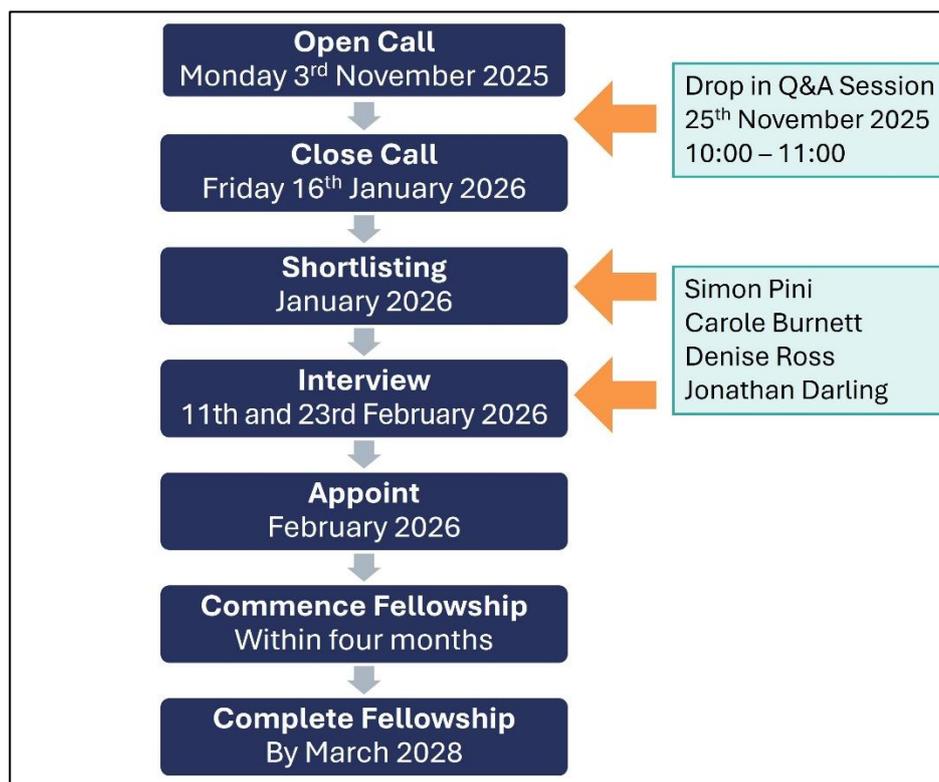
[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 362 076 976 364 4

Passcode: ZQ74zL6n

Following the submission of the application form, candidates will be shortlisted and invited to interview. Successful candidates will be expected to commence the fellowships within four months of notice.

7. Fellowship process and timescales



To apply, please send the following:

1. Completed application form
2. Up to date narrative CV
3. Letter of support from academic supervisor, line manager and member of CSU tri-team

by e-mail to choral@leeds.ac.uk by 16th January 2026