

# **EWING FOUNDATION**

for deaf children

Candidate information

**Specialist Audiology Technician  
(North)**

July 2019

## Introduction

Thank you for your interest in working with the Ewing Foundation. The charity is excited to be recruiting a specialist **Audiology Technician for the north** and this pack provides information on our organisation, the role, the skills and experiences we are looking for, and how to apply.

Good luck with your application!

## About us

The Ewing Foundation was established in 1952 by Malcolm and Sheila McAlpine and named in recognition of the support they had received from Sir Alexander and Lady Irene Ewing, pioneers in the field of audiology and the education of deaf children. Today, the charity is chaired by their youngest son, Hamish.

The remit of the Ewing Foundation has always been to support practitioners in the educational environment to enable deaf learners to achieve academically and socially through listening and speaking. At first, this objective was addressed by 'one man and his van' based at the University of Manchester, who visited schools to check pupils' audiological equipment and trained their staff in its optimal use.

While the central philosophy remains the same as in those early days, the range of services and methods of delivery have significantly evolved with advances in technology, medicine and educational legislation and practice.

Today, Ewing Foundation Audiology Technicians work in educational settings, helping in a number of ways, including;

- Maintaining audiological equipment, for example, hearing aids
- Providing training in the use of specialist equipment such as wireless communication devices
- Advising on acoustics and the listening environment

Even experienced professionals can encounter difficulties checking, using and maintaining today's increasingly sophisticated audiological equipment. This is particularly true where combinations of different technical aids are to be used, for example, hearing instruments + personal radio aids + soundfield systems. Our Audiology Technicians have a wealth of experience with various makes and models and are able to find solutions to most problems presented to them.

Our Audiology Technicians have positive relationships with many manufacturers and suppliers of audiological equipment. As well as being knowledgeable about different systems, they are able to be objective about their qualities and suitability for the context, and are therefore able to provide unbiased information and advice. This approach also helps to keep up to date with any new developments.

We currently have three Audiology Technicians and they are in great demand. Therefore, we are keen to expand the team, especially within northern England.

**For more information about the work we do, please visit our website:**

[www.ewing-foundation.org.uk](http://www.ewing-foundation.org.uk)

## **Job description**

<b>Title:</b>	Specialist Audiology Technician (North)
<b>Reporting to:</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Location:</b>	This role will have a base at our office at the University of Manchester, with some homeworking, and travelling across parts of the UK, particularly northern England
<b>Salary:</b>	Negotiable (depending on experience)
<b>Please note:</b>	We are very interested in hearing from a range of candidates with the relevant skills, knowledge and experiences for this role. Ideally we believe this is a full time role, however, we can be flexible about days and hours. This role could be on a self-employed or employed basis.

## **Overall purpose of the role**

The Technician appointed to this role will support specialist and mainstream professionals working directly with deaf children and young people, particularly in schools and educational settings. This will involve regular checking, maintenance and repair of deaf learners' equipment.

They will advise on acoustics and how to improve the listening environment.

They will also be an effective representative of the Ewing Foundation (and its related charities) across the north of England.

## **Key Accountabilities**

1. Providing technical support for deaf children and young people, and professionals working directly with them. This includes:
  - Instructing on the correct fitting and use of personal hearing instruments (for example, hearing aids, cochlear implants, bone anchored/conduction devices)
  - Diagnosing faults of devices and systems such as personal hearing aids, personal radio aids and classroom soundfield systems
  - Identifying links between personal devices and other technology
  - Providing training to professionals to carry out checks and perform basic trouble-shooting activities
2. Being an effective and organised member of the team. This includes:
  - Organising own workload and diary effectively and efficiently
  - Keeping accurate records of all work undertaken and all expenses incurred, and invoicing promptly
  - Sharing information and learning with the team, for example, on products and devices
  - Contributing to Ewing Foundation wider team initiatives led by the Chief Executive
  - Preparing concise reports for quarterly Trustee meetings on work completed and outcomes achieved
  - Undertaking continuing professional development as required for the successful execution of the role

## Person specification

- Demonstrated passion for, and commitment to, the inclusion and achievement of deaf learners
- Relevant understanding and up to date knowledge of audiology and technology, particularly in relation to deaf learners in schools and educational settings
- A strong understanding and appreciation of effective teaching and learning environments for deaf learners
- Recent and practical experience in testing and evaluating hearing devices and systems including personal hearing aids, radio aids, communication devices and classroom soundfield systems
- Excellent IT skills developed in a range of settings
- Confident communicator with excellent coaching, influencing, negotiating and ambassadorial skills
- Strong self-motivator able to work both independently and effectively within a small team
- Able to work collaboratively with team members and sharing learning/experiences
- Highly organised with effective administration skills
- Able to positively promote the organisation, create a strong network of contacts and develop relevant partnerships
- Holding a full clean driving licence, and willing to travel locally, regionally and on occasions, nationally, which may require overnight stays

Please note, this role will require an enhanced DBS check.

## How to apply

If you require any further information please contact our Chief Executive, Sarah Armstrong, by email: [saraha@ewing-foundation.org.uk](mailto:saraha@ewing-foundation.org.uk)

The closing date for this role is 12 September at 12 midday. To make an application, please provide the following to [saraha@ewing-foundation.org.uk](mailto:saraha@ewing-foundation.org.uk) by the closing date:

- Your most recent CV (no longer than two pages)
- A letter of application detailing how you meet each of the points listed in the person specification (no longer than two pages)
- Please also indicate in your covering email what your preferred days/hours and employment basis would be, and the earliest date you could begin if you were successfully appointed