The School of Dentistry
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS
Our vision: To inspire oral healthcare professionals and scientists to innovate and transform global health and quality of life via world leading clinical, educational and research excellence.

Our goals:
- To produce dental professionals who are responsive to the rapidly evolving external environment
- To produce world leading dental research from bench to patient to population; and
- To invest in our staff and nurture their potential

The School of Dentistry at the University of Leeds

Inspire  Innovate  Transform

Read our strategy
medhealth.leeds.ac.uk/dentistry/strategy
Our innovative educational programmes meet the rapidly changing global demands in oral healthcare and the dental workforce.

Led by professionals at the forefront of clinical, educational and oral science research, our student experience is founded on academic and research excellence, delivering world-class education and innovative clinical training. Our aim is to inspire the next generation of dental professionals through innovative programmes that transform the student journey at Leeds.

The flagship undergraduate Dental Surgery programme (MChD/BChD) is unique, inspiring the next generation of dentists. Dental students graduate with a BSc, a BChD (the registrable qualification) and Masters level awards.

Our BSc in Dental Hygiene and Therapy, introduced in 2017, prepares dental healthcare professionals to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving external professional landscape. With a co-taught first year, our student dentists and allied dental professionals experience team working from the very outset of their programmes.

New and innovative programmes open for recruitment in 2019, with distinctive offerings in Digital Dentistry, Dental Materials and Oral and Maxillo-Facial Surgery.
Our new, unique MClinDent in Advanced Dental Practice is consultant/specialist-led and provides hands-on advanced clinical experience.

It will enable eligibility to sit the Membership examination in Advanced General Dental Surgery of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (MAGDS RCSEd).

The Professional Doctorate in Paediatric Dentistry is internationally recognised as sector-leading and is in exceptionally high demand. Students combine clinical training with research in clinical practice, positioning them at the forefront of the speciality. Successful completion confers eligibility to sit the tricolligate membership in Paediatric Dentistry (MPaed Dent), enhancing career opportunities for our graduates.

We also offer established MSc programmes in Paediatric Dentistry and Dental Public Health and a newly launched innovative disease-led MSc in Translational Research in Oral Sciences. An MSc top-up articulation with the Faculty of General Dental Practice (FGDP) UK in Restorative Dentistry and Implant Dentistry will be reinstated from September 2018.
Using interdisciplinary expertise we strive to understand fundamental mechanisms of oral and other diseases, particularly musculoskeletal, to improve treatment, restore function and address the needs for prevention.

The relationship between oral and systemic health is a more recent priority (‘putting the mouth back in to the body’), inspired by emerging and future disease patterns and the increased complexity of comorbidities. Our goal is to translate innovative research to transform patient and population quality of life.

We benefit from the exciting opportunities in medical technologies and digital health through regional access to 160 medtech and health informatics companies; one of the largest sectors in the UK. Dentistry is one of the priority areas for the University of Leeds’ EPSRC Innovation Knowledge Centre, providing funding for our proof of concept work in medical devices. We have seen the future of dentistry and it is undoubtedly digital. Our expertise in Digital Dentistry inspires not only our students but our industrial partners, with whom we are working to transform the dental workflow.

Staff and postgraduate students work across the disciplines and clinical specialities to address clinical priorities. Our postgraduate research student society is thriving and our students co-authored 30% of outputs submitted to the last REF. We are partners in the EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Tissue Engineering & Regenerative Medicine; our PhD students come from the whole range of disciplines, from clinical dentistry and medicine, psychology, engineering, biomedicine and the physical sciences. We provide research supervision and opportunities for NHS specialist trainees through our MRes programme, in partnership with our colleagues in Leeds Dental Institute.
Our recent multi-million pound refurbishment has transformed the working environment for staff and students alike.

Our innovative, new lecture theatre is inspiring teaching delivery with a combination of physical space changes and innovative use of digital technology that is sector leading. ‘Flipped learning’ promotes collaborative and deeper learning, transforming the experience for our students.

Leeds is at the forefront of digital dentistry. Our haptics training suite has the largest number of MOOG Simodonts in the UK. Students have access to a School-developed, bespoke and unique library of haptic exercises and the 3D scanning/printing of clinical case variations which allows for effective rehearsal of surgical cases.

Our dedicated Oral Biology multidisciplinary research laboratories in the Wellcome Trust Brenner Building at the St James’s University Hospital site are co-located with the School of Medicine’s biomedical research groups. Dentistry researchers work alongside colleagues in musculoskeletal, cancer, genetics, molecular pathology and immunology research, inspiring interdisciplinary working and delivering innovation in research with real impact. Cutting edge facilities are home to a vibrant postgraduate research community shared with scientists who have international reputations for their contributions to dental research and beyond.

Translating research into clinical practice is fundamental to our research strategy to transform the quality of life of patients. Our state-of-the-art Dental Translation and Clinical Research Unit (DenTCRU) is co-funded by the Wellcome Trust. Here we promote our research in interdisciplinary dental sciences for patient benefit ‘from bench to patient and back again’, spearheading partnerships with local, national and international industry.
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We are an international school

We embed internationality in all that we do. We welcome students from across the world and more than 20% of our undergraduate intake are international students, supported by our in house international student support advisor and study support team.

Our students routinely take up the opportunity for ERASMUS exchange visits. The School has a multi-faith room with dedicated ablution facilities; we celebrate and respect cultural differences. Our postgraduate programmes are inspired by the need to address global oral healthcare problems.

We enjoy formal international partnerships, including with the Universities of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Sienna, Osaka and Nanjing, facilitating staff and student exchange, and transforming the horizons of our vision.

Our staff and research students travel extensively to share knowledge and collaborate with partners across the globe and equally we welcome international partners and students to the School. More than 40% of our research outputs were co-authored with international partners in 2016 - 17; our research innovations are partnered with international industry in Switzerland and Japan.
We reach out

Our students are inspiring local school children to aim high, mentoring those from non-traditional backgrounds towards careers in dentistry through their own Open Wide scheme and delivering oral health promotion to children of all ages.

We have a prize-winning, innovative patient, public involvement and engagement (PPIE) programme that has achieved national recognition. Taking a co-production approach with patients, Theatre of Debate, local schools and staff and students from the School of Dentistry and colleagues in the Faculty of Arts culminated in the Don’t Smile play. The play was supported by the Wellcome Trust’s ISSF and RCUK. It was awarded the Engaging Young People 2016 award at the National Co-ordinating Centre for Public Engagement awards.

This has led onto the RAISED in Yorkshire project (Research Activity In Schools Evaluating Dental health) where staff and students support local schools to gain experience of oral health research that matters to their community. Co-production of our research with our SMILE AIDER – PPIE Forum (Stakeholder Meaningful Involvement and Engagement Aiding Dental Research) ensures our research takes a patient-centric approach to maximise patient benefit, improve care and NHS impact. Together with our emerging GDP network DENTPRiME nORTHERN (Dental Primary Care Oral health Research Network) has transformed the way in which we frame our research questions.

We work in partnership with the Leeds Dental Institute (LDI), part of Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (LTHT), providing an inspirational student experience through innovative clinical education within a transformative hospital environment. LDI staff are key partners in our shared translational research agenda.
LTHT is one of the largest and busiest acute hospital trusts in the UK, with more than 17,000 staff providing regional specialist care for 5.4 million patients.

LDI is one of the largest dental teaching hospitals in the UK, providing care for more than 85,000 adults and children each year. The hospital offers 147 dental chairs, a dedicated surgical theatre offering treatment under general anaesthesia and a sedation unit offering intravenous sedation for dental phobic patients.

LDI is one of the few teaching hospitals in the UK training the whole dental workforce including nurses and technicians as well as more than 600 of our dental surgery and hygiene and therapy students each year. Patients and students alike benefit from access to specialist expertise in Oral Medicine, Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, Oral Surgery/Maxillofacial Surgery, Paediatric Dentistry, Restorative Dentistry, Orthodontics, Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology and Dental Public Health. A dedicated dental laboratory produces dental appliances and prosthetics for the rehabilitation of head and neck cancer patients.
UK’s third largest city
Leeds is the UK’s third largest city, with more than three quarters of a million people, speaking 170 different languages. Leeds city region, the largest outside London, is home to 119,000 businesses, contributing 5% of the UK’s total output.

Leeds has the biggest concentration of financial and professional services and digital jobs in the UK outside of London. It’s a connected city, with the busiest transport hub in the North of England with one of the fastest growing UK airports.


A city of learning, Leeds has four universities, with more than 63,000 students from 151 countries, representing a world-class academic community delivering excellence in health innovation and research. Leeds Academic Health Partnership has been established to bring together all of Leeds’ universities, NHS organisations and the city council to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Leeds by helping drive innovation through collaboration.

A great place to live, with easy access to some of the most stunning countryside in the UK and important historical sites including the mediaeval city of York. Leeds is one of the top 5 UK tourist destinations with >26 million visitors a year and one of Lonely Planet’s top 10 European destinations (2017). Renowned for its shopping, rich cultural heritage, parks, excellent schools and affordable house prices, Leeds is regularly rated highly as one of the best places to live in the UK based on cost of living, happiness and employment.
The University of Leeds

Founding member of the prestigious Russell Group of Universities.

Also a member of: the Worldwide Universities Network, the Association of Commonwealth Universities, the European University Association, the White Rose University Consortium, the Santander Network and the CDIO Initiative.

The University, established in 1904, is one of the largest higher education institutions in the UK. We are renowned globally for the quality of our teaching and research.

Leeds University is a member of the Russell Group of research-intensive universities and achieved a Gold rating in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). We were voted 3rd in the UK in the 2018 Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey.

We are in the top 10 universities in the UK, according to The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018, and were named the University of the Year 2017 in The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide.

More than £520m has been committed to a transformative campus development programme.

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Our University community is...

...a great place to study, hosting more than 34,000 students including over 7,000 international students from 150 countries. The University has a global network of over 250,000 alumni from over 180 different countries.

...making a great contribution to the community, around £1.23bn a year is added to the local economy with students adding a further £211m through rents and living costs.

We were ranked the UK top university for the environmental impact of our research according to Times Higher Education.
Enterprise…

...a great place to innovate, the University has created more than 100 spinout companies, and more AIM (London Stock Exchange) listed firms than any other university in the UK. Six of our spin-out companies are market listed with a value of over £500 million and employing over 700 people.

The state-of-the-art £40 million Nexus innovation hub will enable businesses and other external organisations to innovate, collaborate and access the skills and talent required to support their growth.

The University is a hub for digital innovation including:

- The MRC’s Medical Bioinformatics Centre (Leeds Institute for Data Analytics)
- The unique Leeds Care Record connecting data from half a million patient records
- Access to 160 medtech and health informatics companies, one of the largest sectors in the UK