Work Experience Job Description
St Johnston Lab

About the Gurdon Institute

The Gurdon Institute is a world-leading centre for research into the biology of development and how normal growth and maintenance can go wrong in diseases such as cancer. Many of our scientists have made pioneering contributions to the fields of basic cell biology, cellular reprogramming, epigenetics, and DNA repair.

Dates of Placement
15-19 July

Placement Description

Area of the Gurdon Laboratory Research

General topic area Cellular polarity, Cytoskeleton, Epithelium

About the team Our group is primarily interested in investigating how cells know ‘up’ from ‘down,’ otherwise known as cell polarity. This difference is essential for the correct development of an organism. Cells with mixed up polarity can be a hallmark of cancer.

Main model(s) used Drosophila (fruit flies)

What will you do? Spend 3 hours in the lab each day, learning and practicing techniques such as molecular biology, fly sorting, immunostaining, confocal microscopy.

You will attend four, two-hour interactive workshops to help you develop scientific knowledge and practical skills.

Additionally, you will create and deliver a scientific presentation to other work experience students.

You will also have the opportunity to network with post-graduate students and scientists, talk to them about their jobs and lives and find out how research is done in the lab.
About the successful student

We expect all students to be punctual, responsible, reliable, curious, and willing to listen to advice and act on feedback.

You must also be available for all of the days during the placement week.

Ideally interested in: Biology and/or chemistry

Key skills include: Attention to detail, proactive, inquisitive

What you will need

You will need to bring

- Closed-toed shoes
- A positive attitude

We will provide

- Lab coat
- Protective eyewear
- Gloves
- Computer access
- Free lunch at the Institute (up to £10 per day)
- Transportation reimbursement (receipts required, up to £50 per week)

Questions?

If you have any questions about this job description, the work experience programme or the application process, please reach out to Naomi at workexperience@gurdon.cam.ac.uk