

Post Details		Last Updated: 08/12/2023	
Faculty/Administrative/Service Department	Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences		
Job Title	Laboratory Technician (Biosciences Teaching)		
Job Family	Technical & Experimental	Job Level	2b
Responsible to	Senior Laboratory Technician		
Responsible for (Staff)	n/a		

Job Purpose Statement

To provide technical support to both the teaching laboratory in the Innovation for Health building and Food & Nutrition Kitchen Lab, within the Faculty of Health & Medical Science. To provide more general technical support to undergraduate students during their practical laboratory classes to ensure a positive student experience.

Key Responsibilities This document is not designed to be a list of all tasks undertaken but an outline record of the main responsibilities (5 to 8 maximum)

1. Prepare all materials required for taught practical classes in the IFH laboratory and Food & Nutrition Kitchen Lab, and to provide technical support throughout the classes. To work with the senior technicians to ensure that classes are appropriately supported, and that the students are working safely.
2. Assist in the day-to-day duties within the laboratory, Food & Nutrition Kitchen Lab Kitchen and prep rooms.
3. To oversee the safe operation of key equipment, systems and processes within the Innovation for Health laboratory and prep room.
4. Ensure correct disposal of chemical, biological and general waste through relevant waste streams.
5. Monitor and maintain a safe working environment in accordance with Health and Safety procedures such as risk assessments, COSHH, SOPs and adherence to local rules.
6. Participate in and prepare for Open Days, Offer Holder Days, Widening Participation and other events run in the laboratory and wider university.
7. As directed by the Teaching Laboratory Manager, work in other areas within the Technical Support Team as necessary to meet the business needs.

N.B. The above list is not exhaustive.

All staff are expected to:

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities Policy.
- Work to achieve the aims of our Sustainability Policy and promote awareness to colleagues and students.
- Follow University/departmental policies and working practices in ensuring that no breaches of information security result from their actions.
- Ensure they are aware of and abide by all relevant University Regulations and Policies relevant to the role.
- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your line manager.
- Work supportively with colleagues, operating in a collegiate manner at all times.

Help maintain a safe working environment by:

- Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand.
- Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy.

Elements of the Role

This section outlines some of the key elements of the role, which allow this role to be evaluated within the University's structure. It provides an overview of what is expected from the post holder in the day-to-day operation of the role.

Planning and Organising

- The post holder will organise and prioritise their work within an established operating environment.
- They will have the latitude within their daily work routine to organise their own work to ensure that key deadlines and objectives are met. This will include successfully managing any conflicting demands, possessing a basic awareness of the options available and being able to make effective decisions, referring to their line manager where appropriate.

Problem Solving and Decision Making

- Decisions taken will generally be based on established procedures and precedents, with the post holder referring more complex issues/problems to their line manager. Errors in judgement or failure to report an issue could result in damaging equipment or risking student's and staff's personal safety.

Continuous Improvement

- The post holder is expected to recognise where improvements to best practice could be made, implementing them under the supervision of their line manager.

Accountability

- The post holder is responsible for monitoring and maintaining a safe working environment within the laboratories, ensuring that the environment meets Health and Safety requirements and procedures such as electrical safety testing, COSHH and disposal of waste are carried out in compliance with their associated regulations.
- The post holder is expected to also apply their technical knowledge and working knowledge of the required laboratory practices in order to provide advice, training and assistance to staff and students regarding the application of techniques and use of equipment for preparation and application of specialised laboratory techniques within the specified research area. The work will usually follow an established pattern and the post holder is expected to refer to well-defined procedures for guidance when required.

Dimensions of the role

- Working within a team of technical staff, the post-holder will also provide frontline technical support for undergraduate classes of up to 200 students in the Faculty laboratories.
- The post-holder will assist undergraduate and postgraduate students and staff in the maintenance of laboratory equipment and consumables to these laboratories.
- The post holder will be required to take part in a cleaning rota on a weekly basis.

Supplementary Information

- N/A

Person Specification This section describes the sum total of knowledge, experience & competence required by the post holder that is necessary for standard acceptable performance in carrying out this role.

Qualifications and Professional Memberships

Vocational qualifications plus some relevant work experience

Or

Learning gained through work experience

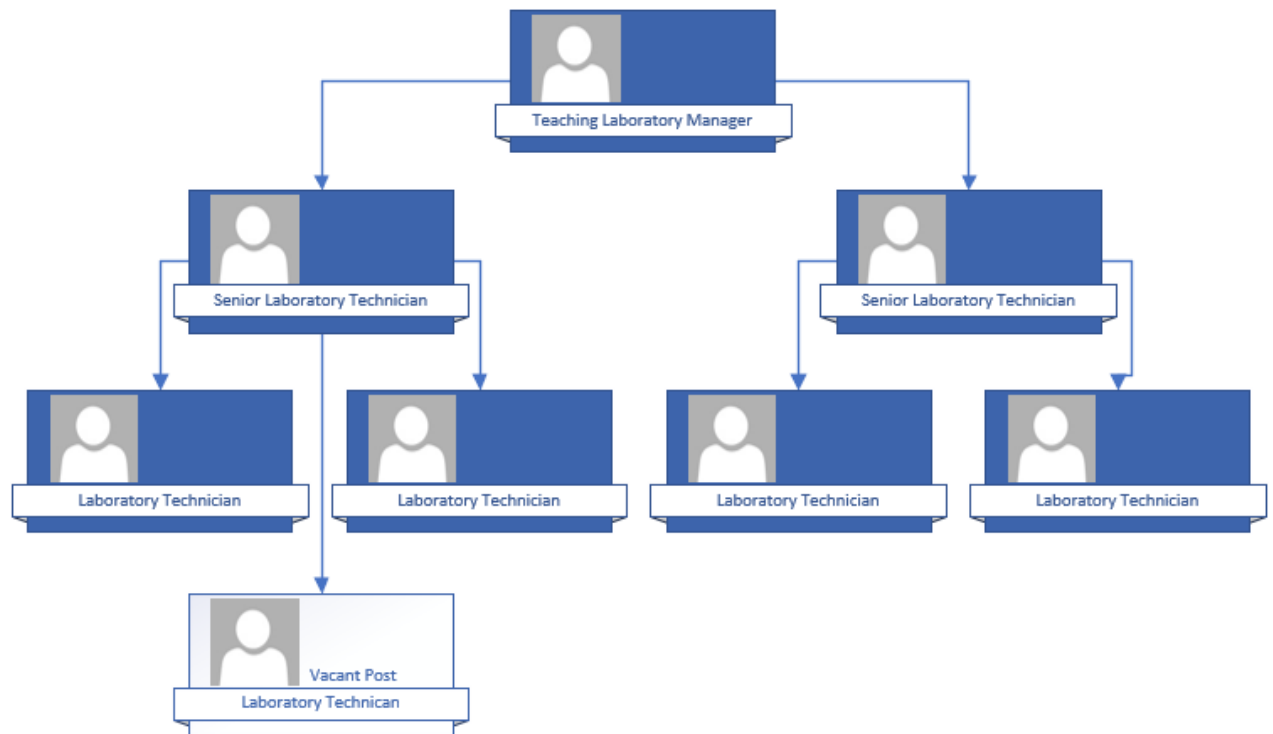
Some experience within a practical teaching environment

E

D

Technical Competencies (Experience and Knowledge) This section contains the level of competency required to carry out the role (please refer to the Competency Framework for clarification where needed and the Job Matching Guidance).	Essential / Desirable	Level 1-3
Experience in a similar role	E	2
Able to undertake a range of technical support activities with minimal supervision	D	2
An understanding of relevant Health and Safety requirements and procedures	E	1
Familiarity with Microsoft packages	E	1
Special Requirements:		Essential / Desirable
The post holder may on occasion be required to work on weekends when Open Days or Events are scheduled		E
The post holder will be required to hold a current First Aid certificate and fulfil the role of First Aider for practical classes		D
Core Competencies This section contains the level of competency required to carry out this role. (Please refer to the competency framework for clarification where needed). n/a (not applicable) should be placed, where the competency is not a requirement of the grade.		Level 1-3
Communication Adaptability / Flexibility Customer/Client service and support Planning and Organising Continuous Improvement Problem Solving and Decision Making Skills Managing and Developing Performance Creative and Analytical Thinking Influencing, Persuasion and Negotiation Skills Strategic Thinking & Leadership		2 2 1 2 1 2 n/a n/a n/a n/a
<p>This Job Purpose reflects the core activities of the post. As the Department/Faculty and the post holder develop, there will inevitably be some changes to the duties for which the post is responsible, and possibly to the emphasis of the post itself. The University expects that the post holder will recognise this and will adopt a flexible approach to work. This could include undertaking relevant training where necessary.</p> <p>Should significant changes to the Job Purpose become necessary, the post holder will be consulted and the changes reflected in a revised Job Purpose.</p>		
Organisational/Departmental Information & Key Relationships		
<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <p>The technical support team within the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences provides support to the three Schools (Biosciences & Medicine; Veterinary Medicine; and Health Sciences). The technical team contribute to the Faculty's teaching in at undergraduate and postgraduate level across a wide range of disciplines.</p>		

Department Structure Chart



Relationships

Internal

- The post holder will communicate with undergraduate, taught- and research-postgraduate students from a wide range of disciplines.
- They will liaise with other technical staff to request advice on experimental work, IT issues and use of specialist equipment and academic staff with regard to student practical classes.
- They will have regular contact with Estates and Facilities to report faults and oversee contractors work within the laboratory areas including disposal of hazardous waste and surplus equipment.
- The post-holder will work with staff from the University Safety Office and the Faculty Safety Advisor in their role in providing a Health & Safety.
- The post holder will work under the management of the Teaching Laboratory Manager and will liaise and interact with other technical staff to deliver the post goals.
- They will work alongside academic staff with regard to the running of undergraduate and postgraduate teaching laboratories and to provide advice on the use of equipment.

External

- Liaising with external service suppliers for the maintenance and repair of equipment.