



**Harper Adams  
University**

**Dairy Maintenance and Research Technician  
(Full time, Fixed Term up to 30 months duration)**

**Candidate Information Pack**



# About Harper Adams

Harper Adams University is a welcoming, forward-thinking community of over 600 employees working together to create real, lasting impact – ensuring that everyone, everywhere, can access sustainable food, land, and animal systems. Our work contributes directly to planetary health, animal welfare and ultimately human wellbeing. We're passionate about what we do – and about the people we do it with.

We are deeply committed to the wellbeing and development of our colleagues. Our annual employee survey consistently tells us that staff are proud to work here, feel trusted to do their jobs, and are supported by their managers. Our inclusive and empowering culture is one of the many reasons our people stay, grow, and thrive.

While our rural Shropshire campus remains central to who we are, our presence now extends to Telford – a town with a rich history of innovation and revolution, and a fitting symbol of our ever-evolving mission. This growing site strengthens our ties to the local region and reinforces our commitment to inclusive education and collaboration that reaches far beyond any single postcode. Our impact and reach are proudly regional, national and international.

We offer:

- A beautiful rural working environment
- Generous holiday allowance with the opportunity to purchase more
- Flexible, agile working opportunities
- On-campus retail, catering and gym facilities
- Free staff parking
- Corporate discounts at seven fitness centres in Telford and Wrekin
- Enhanced maternity and sickness benefits
- Disability Confident Employer status
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Cycle scheme supporter
- Workwear provided (where applicable)

Harper Adams is the UK's leading specialist institution serving the agri-food, animal wellbeing, engineering and land management sectors. We are a world-respected provider of industry-led education and research in food production and technology, animal health, environmental sustainability and sustainable business. Our work is grounded through partnerships – with more than 1,100 organisations in the UK and beyond – that fuel our research, shape our teaching, and deliver genuine impact.

We began life in 1901 as Harper Adams Agricultural College and became a university in 2012. Our Chancellor is Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal and our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken Sloan, joined us in 2021. Our rural campus near Newport in Shropshire is supported by a growing site in Telford, offering a range of housing options and excellent rail and road connections to the West Midlands and beyond. We've invested more than £50 million in our estate in the last decade – including leading-edge teaching, research and veterinary facilities, modern laboratories, and a purpose-built Veterinary Services Centre. Our commercial farm spans 494 hectares and plays an active role in our education, research, and knowledge exchange.

Take a virtual tour of the campus: [Virtual Tour](#)

We are proud to be the UK's highest-ranked small specialist provider for the agri-food and animal wellbeing sectors, consistently delivering the largest cohort of graduates into these industries – with over 97 per cent going directly into employment. We currently welcome over 3,000 full- and part-time students across undergraduate and postgraduate courses, including subjects like agricultural engineering, veterinary nursing, business, land and property management, and veterinary medicine and surgery – the latter delivered through the Harper & Keele Veterinary School, established in 2020.

For further details about the University, please visit our website: <http://www.harper-adams.ac.uk>

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Title of the post:** Dairy Maintenance and Research Technician  
(Full time, Fixed Term up to 30 months duration)

**Department:** Agriculture & Environment

**Reporting to:** Prof. Liam A. Sinclair

The Dairy Maintenance and Research Technician will be part of and support a research team investigating dietary means to reduce the output of methane, nitrogen and minerals such as phosphorus, and improve nutrient use efficiency in dairy cows.

### **The Main Duties and Responsibilities include:**

- Maintain and repair equipment associated with dairy cow research projects, including individual feeding equipment, methane measurement equipment, mixer wagon and load all.
- Support academic staff, post-doctoral researchers, post-graduate students and technicians in setting up and operating methane measurement equipment on commercial dairy farms, and assist with data and sample collection.
- Support academic staff, researchers and technicians in data collection on projects undertaken on the Harper Adams University dairy research unit and metabolism unit, and assist with sample preparation.
- Assist in the daily husbandry requirements of the applied dairy cow research and dairy cow metabolism units, in particular the feeding of animals, assistance with recording and sample collection, and occasional weekend work.
- Assist in the preparation of the departmental facilities for trials and experimental work.
- Support academic staff and technicians in the delivery of technology transfer events and teaching
- Any other duties as required by the department that are commensurate with the role and grade.

## Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	Preferably qualified to degree level or have previous experience of the maintenance and operation of farm equipment	
Experience	Working knowledge of animal hygiene requirements/Health and Safety regulations.  Ability to work on own initiative to plan and manage own workload and also to work as part of a team.  Experience of working with farm animals and laboratory analysis is desirable	
Knowledge/Skills	Computer literate with experience of using Microsoft Office suite applications.  High attention to detail.	
Personal Qualities	A full, clean driving license is essential or the ability to visit different areas of the University site.	



## Conditions of Service

The national recommendations which have arisen from the negotiations between UCEA and the unions recognised at national level, the Joint Negotiating Committee for Higher Education Staff (JNCHES), directly affect the terms and conditions insofar as they have been adopted by the Board of Governors.

Salary	The commencing salary will be within the range £28,381 to £30,805 per annum. The point of entry will be dependent upon relevant qualifications and experience. Salaries are paid monthly, in arrears, by credit transfer on the 28 <sup>th</sup> day of the month.
Contract Term	This is a full time, fixed term contract (up to 2 ½ years). Employment may be terminated during the course of the contract by either party giving one months' notice in writing
Hours of Work	The routine working week is 37 hours over Monday to Friday, inclusive. There may be a requirement for overtime working from time to time and time off in lieu may be allowed for agreed hours worked in excess of 37 per week.
Holidays	<p>The annual holiday entitlement is 22 working days, plus statutory bank holidays. In addition to this there are 8 University closure days during the full annual leave year. The holiday year runs from 1 August to 31 July and in the holiday year in which the employment commences or terminates the holiday entitlement will accrue on a pro-rata basis for each complete week of service. The timing of holidays is subject to the agreement of the Line Manager.</p> <p><b>All annual holiday entitlement (including bank holidays and University closure days) is pro-rata for part-time employees. Further details will be confirmed on appointment.</b></p>
Sick Leave	During periods of certified sickness, the post-holder will be eligible to receive sick pay in accordance with the University Sick Pay Policy. The payment of sick pay is subject to compliance with the University rules for the notification and verification of sickness absence, details of which will be provided to the successful applicant upon commencement of employment.
Pension	The post-holder will be entitled to join the Harper Adams Group Pension Scheme and details will be provided to the successful applicant upon commencement of employment.
Exclusivity of Service	You are required to devote your full-time attention and abilities to your duties during working hours and to act in the best interests of the University at all times. Accordingly, you must not, without written consent of the University, undertake employment or engagement including external consultancy, which might interfere with the performance of your duties or conflict with the interests of the University.

It follows that, regardless of whether you are employed on a full-time or part-time contract, you are required to notify your line manager of any employment or engagement which you intend to undertake whilst in the employment of the University (including any such employment or engagement which commenced before your employment under this contract). Your line manager will then notify you within 10 working days whether such employment or engagement is prohibited.

#### Criminal Convictions

The post involves the opportunity for access to children and young persons under the age of 18. For this reason, the University is entitled to consider any criminal convictions, cautions or impending case(s) that it considers to be relevant to this post.

The post is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. This means that applicants are not entitled to withhold information about convictions which for other purposes are “spent” under the provisions of the Act.

Applicants must therefore complete the part of the application form declaring any criminal convictions and cautions from any court or police authority. The successful applicant will have to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service Check before an appointment can be made.

#### References

Candidates should ensure that they provide full details of the name and postal address of their referees. Please include e-mail addresses and telephone numbers wherever possible. Referees should include your present, or most recent, employer.

#### **Application Procedure:**

All applications should be completed and submitted using the Harper Adams e-Recruitment programme at <http://jobs.harper-adams.ac.uk>

To be submitted no later than midnight **on Friday 25 July 2025**