



Recruitment Pack

Head of Research and Evaluation (Maternity Cover)

February 2026

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Welcome

I would like to personally thank you for being interested in our work at Breathe Arts Health Research, and taking the time to learn about what we do and how we do it.

We care about supporting every individual we encounter to live their healthiest and most fulfilling life. We know from a decade's worth of research, that creativity can play a unique role in supporting the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities, and we pride ourselves on creating safe and inclusive environments where individuals can thrive. This doesn't just apply to the communities we support, but also to all of those who work at and for Breathe.

Breathe is a values-driven organisation, and we ensure we are led by our values in all we do, and all that we are. We value every individual for the unique contribution they make to the workplace and do all we can to support every person to flourish in their role. At Breathe, you will work alongside those who value kindness, integrity and inclusivity as key drivers. You will also enjoy a workplace environment that values both professionalism and fun in equal measure.

I hope that you will find this pack useful and insightful, and even if you don't feel this role is the right fit for you, we always welcome the opportunity to connect with like-minded creative people, so please do feel free to get in touch.



Yvonne Farquharson
Founder and Managing Director



Who we are

Breathe Arts Health Research (Breathe) is a not-for-profit social enterprise founded in 2012, leading in the unique intersection of arts, health, and science.

Our vision
is to transform
healthcare, embedding
evidence-based
arts & health into
the mainstream.

We are
connected and
grounded by our values –
to be pioneering,
empowering, collaborative,
inclusive and to act
with integrity.



Breathe has a core team of 14 staff, over 100 freelance creatives and 20 volunteers, supported by a Board of Directors, helping to shape and deliver our vision.

We have co-authored medical journals, published books, and contributed to government policies. We are multi-award-winning, receiving accolades and recognition from NESTA, NHS England and Royal Society for Public Health, to name a few.

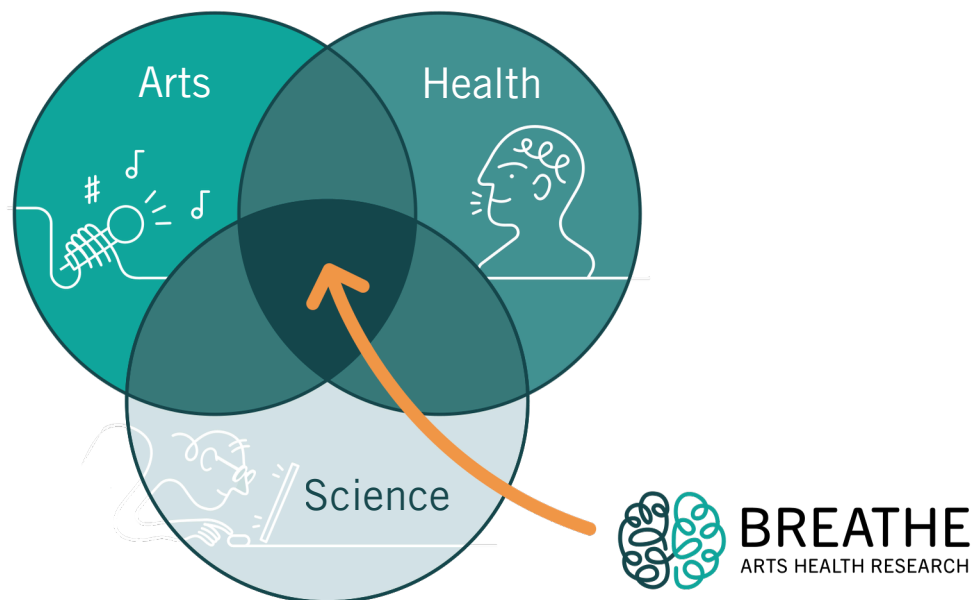


What we do

We deliver innovative, evidence-based programmes across a range of art forms, meeting specific clinical and wellbeing needs and shaping healthcare pathways. Our multi-award-winning work is co-designed with healthcare professionals, creatives, researchers, academics, patients, and communities - ensuring everything we do is relevant, inclusive, and impactful.

Breathe's work has been featured in worldwide press, published books and peer-reviewed medical journals. We are committed to robust scientific research, including randomised controlled trials, our most recent of which gained global recognition for its ground-breaking findings.

From partnering with grassroots organisations and advocating on international stages, to influencing government policy and training the World Health Organization, we draw on over a decade of expertise to shift mindsets, transform systems, and change lives.



Each year,
Breathe is proud to
deliver 1,800 workshops,
talks and performances,
engaging over 64,000
people nationally and
internationally.

Programmes

Our innovative programmes support babies to older adults to live their healthiest lives. We do this through music, dance, magic and more, working with the very best in each field.

Research

Our work is underpinned by rigorous research, ensuring we can measure quality and impact, to always make a meaningful change.

Training

We use our decade of expertise and experience to inform, educate and equip organisations and individuals.

Talks and Advocacy

We provide major contributions to the national advocacy of arts and health, helping to drive the sector forward and build communities of practice.



Job summary

Head of Research and Evaluation (Maternity Cover)

Breathe Arts Health Research are seeking a Head of Research and Evaluation (Maternity Cover) to work across the organisation to embed research and rigorous evaluation strategies across the breadth of our programmes, demonstrating their impact.

This is one of two part-time maternity cover roles being advertised to cover the Head of Scalability's role while they are on maternity leave. The role has been split in two due to two distinct skillsets being required. There was previously a Director of Research role at Breathe, but this has recently been fulfilled by the Head of Scalability.

The Head of Research and Evaluation (Maternity Cover) will be responsible for designing and overseeing the implementation of research protocols and evaluation frameworks, often working in partnership with key academic and external evaluation partners, and disseminating the findings to internal and external stakeholders nationally and internationally.

Previous and current collaborators include King's College London, University College London, Anna Freud Child Outcome Research Consortium and Queen Mary University London as well as our own pool of Research Associates: [Research - Breathe](#)

Current research and evaluation projects in development or underway include:

- A mixed methods study assessing the impact of a co-designed creative project for children in care and on their engagement with CAMHS;
- A quantitative study assessing the impact of a brand new group singing programme for pregnant people on antenatal depression symptoms and mother-foetal interaction;
- A mixed methods study assessing the impact of group singing for fathers at risk of postnatal depression and the interaction with their babies;
- Working with two external partners to consult on and develop their evaluation strategy.

This role will work closely with colleagues of all levels from across the organisation to implement consistent cross-organisational processes for data collection, evaluation and impact reporting; and produce clear, high-quality, timely reporting for funders (including local authorities), corporate partners and other key stakeholders. This will include report writing and co-writing research applications, protocols and publications, data collection and analyses, and supporting with funding applications.

Job description

Head of Research and Evaluation (Maternity Cover)

Strategy

- Lead research and evaluation projects that inform and strengthen the evidence-base behind Breathe's programme strategy, including identifying gaps in evidence and how to address these
- Work collaboratively with the Senior Management Team and external academic partners to seek out and secure new funding streams for research and evaluation, including contributing to applications and provision of accurate budgeting
- Actively contribute to the Senior Management Team, attending regular meetings and contributing to organisational wide strategy
- Work with an awareness of the multiple sectors Breathe bridges, ensuring we are sensitive to what research exists and influencing policy makers and overall growth of the sector

Research, Evaluation & Monitoring

- Identify and seek opportunities to embed research and evaluation across the organisation, overseeing the implementation of the systems and processes required
- Manage and oversee current research projects, working with academic partners and colleagues across the organisation to develop and implement protocols
- Advise on, design and deliver new evaluation frameworks and impact monitoring tools, for Breathe's own programmes and external projects Breathe are consulting on
- Work with the wider Breathe team to embed appropriate systems, advising on data handling processes and tools required for research, evaluation and monitoring across the organisation
- Work alongside Senior Management Team colleagues and the wider Breathe team to oversee and contribute to the production of high-quality progress reporting for funders (including local authorities), working to strict deadlines and with an awareness of each contract's specific reporting requirements
- Work alongside Senior Management Team colleagues and the wider Breathe team to oversee and contribute to the production of robust impact reporting for corporate partners and key stakeholders
- Support staff across the organisation to review research and evaluation findings against agreed targets, identifying strengths, weaknesses and areas for development



Job description (Continued)

Head of Research and Evaluation (Maternity Cover)

Communications & Marketing

- Contribute to the profile of Breathe sector-wide, including securing opportunities to present at conferences and seminars locally, nationally and internationally
- Work to disseminate and articulate research findings across academic, health and arts sectors, varying language and tone depending on the audience

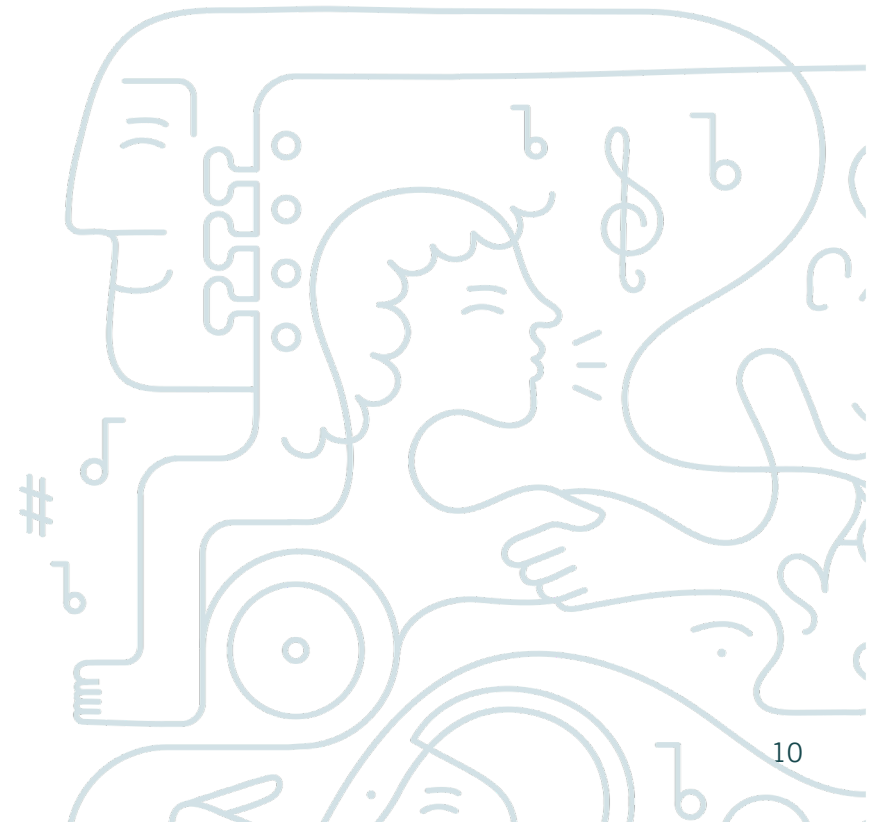
General

- Play an active role in the Breathe team, regularly attending events and activities, ensuring you are informed about the work you are researching and evaluating
- Attend and contribute to relevant sector-wide networks, groups and events
- Carry out all duties with an understanding of and commitment to equal opportunities, equality, diversity and inclusivity
- Hold our Company Values in all that you do; to be Pioneering, Empowering, Collaborative, Inclusive & act with Integrity.

This job description is intended as an outline of the general areas of activity and will be amended in the light of the changing needs of the organisation. Breathe has a small core team and flexibility is required to support the wider needs of the organisation.

Partnership Management

- Manage key stakeholder relationships, including Breathe's pool of Research Associates, seeking organisational wide opportunities to partner and engage them
- Supervise researchers and trainees working cross-organisationally at Breathe, in close collaboration with academic partner institutions



Person specification

We are seeking an experienced professional and analytical thinker to join our creative, hard-working and entrepreneurial team. The right individual will be excited by, and work in line with, Breathe's values.

Essential

- Significant experience leading evaluation and/or research within an arts, cultural, charity or public-interest organisation
- An excellent track record in project management and experience of working with and coordinating multi-disciplinary teams to achieve a common goal
- First class relationship management, effectively interacting with a range of stakeholders
- Demonstrable knowledge and/or expertise of qualitative and quantitative research methods, including mixed-methods approaches
- Analytical thinker who can track programme impact through data and analytics
- Highly organised and able to multi-task
- Strong understanding of funder, policy and sector requirements relating to evaluation, impact and evidence
- Evidence of working on own initiative and decision making
- Strong written skills, able to communicate complicated information with clarity and conciseness.

Desirable

- Experience of working in a social enterprise/not-for-profit organisation
- Experience of public speaking, presenting and/or delivering training
- Experience of managing and overseeing programmes with research studies embedded
- Experience in marketing and communications
- A deep understanding and experience of different art forms

Please note that the successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check, and a job offer would be conditional on this. In addition, the post holder must have the right to live and work in the UK.

Offers are subject to two references acceptable to Breathe.

About the role

Contract:

1-year Maternity Cover, expected until March 2027

Salary:

Circa £40,000 FTE (depending on experience - pro rata for part time)

Reporting to:

Managing Director

Hours of work:

Circa 3 days / 22.5 hours per week - occasional evening and weekend work may be required

Place of work:

Blended Working - Breathe's Office (The Clarence Centre, 6 St George's Circus, London SE1 6FE) and Working from Home.

Remote working will be considered if necessary.

Benefits:

- Breathe's annual leave entitlement for full time staff is 27 days holiday plus 8 days bank holiday per annum, totalling 35 days of annual leave (this amount is pro-rated for part time contracts)
- Company pension scheme (employer contributes 3%, employee contributes 5%), following completion of probation period
- Employee Assistance Programme - including free counselling, telephone helpline, consultations with qualified experts, self-help tools and resources
- Company Tate membership including free access to exhibitions
- Access to free cultural events through our networks and partners
- Regular training and social events with the wider Breathe Team

How to apply

Breathe Arts Health Research is an equal opportunities employer, and we embrace diversity. We positively welcome applications from individuals who identify as people of global majority, d/Deaf and/or disabled and all under-represented groups.

If you'd like an informal and confidential chat about the role, please email Hannah Morgan, Company & HR Administrator (hannah@breatheahr.org) who will arrange for you to speak with the Head of Scalability.

Deadline for applications:

12:00 on Monday 23rd February 2026

First round interviews:

Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th March 2026

Second round interviews:

TBC

Interview location:

All interviews will be held in-person at Breathe's office, SE1 6FE

1. Write to us in no more than one A4 page, telling us:
 - Why you are suitable for this role and what you can bring to Breathe
 - The experience and qualities you would bring to the role and how this meets the job specification
 - Earliest available start date and most recent salary
 - The names and contact details of two referees (only contacted after seeking permission)
 - If you have used AI to help write your application
2. Submit your CV (max 2 pages)
3. Submit a short video statement pitching why you want to work for Breathe (max 1 minute)
4. Complete our [Equal Opportunities form here](#) (this is for monitoring only and will be separated from your application)

How to submit:

Via email or We Transfer link to info@breatheahr.org using the subject heading 'Application: Head of Research and Evaluation'





Contact us

info@breatheahr.org

020 3290 2013

The Clarence Centre, 6 St George's Circus, London, SE1 6FE

@BreatheAHR

breatheahr.org