



BREATHE
ARTS HEALTH RESEARCH

Recruitment Pack

Programme Manager

July 2026

Contents

Welcome 3

Who we are 4

What we do 6

Job summary 8

Job description 9 - 11

Person specification 12

About the role 13

How to apply 14



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 over 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.

We are world leaders in combining creativity and robust scientific research to improve health and wellbeing.

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 **15 staff**, over **100 freelance creatives** and **30 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.

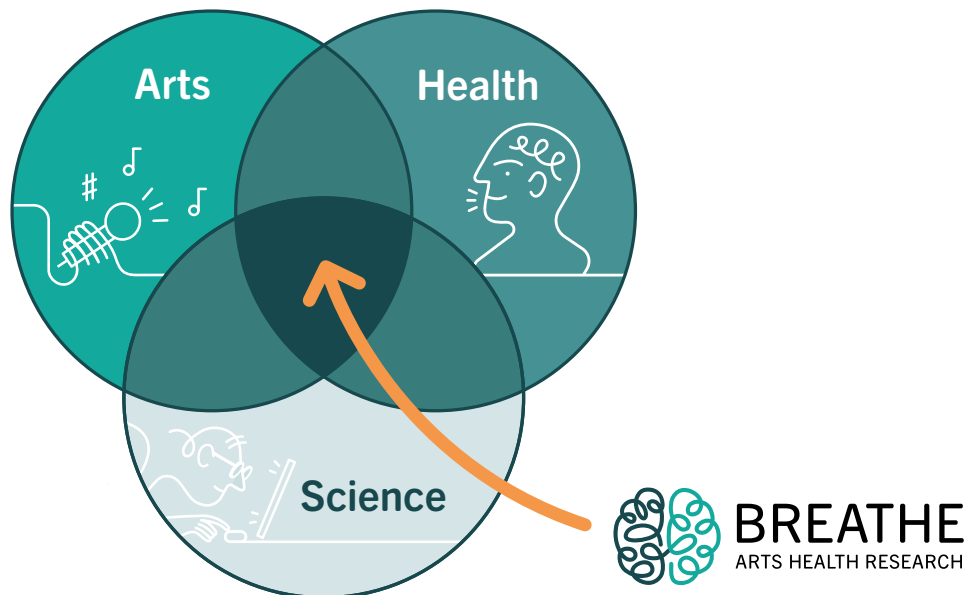


What we do

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

Programme Manager



The Programme Manager will oversee the strategic development and innovative delivery of Breathe's Melodies programmes, with a particular focus on our evidence-based and internationally regarded Breathe Melodies for Mums programme.

This wide-reaching, evidence based, inclusive group singing programme is aimed at new mothers experiencing symptoms of postnatal depression and is delivered in various settings grounded in partnerships with health and social care professionals. The Programme Manager will also be responsible for our new [Melodies programmes](#), [Breathe Melodies for Dads](#) and Breathe Melodies for Mums to be, which are launching in Autumn 2026.

While the role will focus on the Breathe Melodies programmes, the successful candidate will also contribute to and work on Breathe's wider creative programmes.

The Programme Manager must be strategic, highly organised, with excellent attention to detail, and an effective team leader. They must have strong project management experience including budget management, partnership management and administration. The candidate must be highly professional, personable and empathetic, with the ability to engage with a range of stakeholders.

Job description

Programme Manager

Project Management

- Monitor progress and quality across programmes, ensuring excellent communication with internal staff and external partners
- Implement and oversee strategic and efficient administration processes and systems across programmes to ensure smooth delivery models are in place; registration process, monitoring, data collection, evaluation
- Implement and oversee a strategic participant recruitment plan and monitor attendance
- Develop and monitor programme timelines that reflect funding agreements to ensure accurate and timely delivery
- Nurture current stakeholders and partnerships key to sustaining programmes, and strategically identify new areas for growth and development
- Develop and nurture our Programme Ambassador community
- Develop and nurture our freelance artist pool, including recruiting new artists, delivering training and organising regular feedback meetings
- Induct, support and oversee Breathe Melodies volunteers to support programme delivery, following Breathe's wider Volunteer strategy



Job description

Programme Manager

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Embed robust evaluation and data collection processes across all programmes
- Contribute to written reports and present on progress for funders

Communications

- Work with the Senior Communications Manager to ensure effective communications and marketing strategies to aid recruitment of participants to programmes and increase reach
- Oversee the development and maintenance of website content and resource hubs
- Seek opportunities to deliver talks, presentations and workshops and showcase Breathe Melodies programmes

Governance & Finance

- Carefully manage budgets with close attention to detail, monitoring budget progress and produce quarterly finance reports for the Head of Development
- With support from Programme Officers, issue and monitor contracts for all delivery staff, volunteers and clients
- Develop detailed risk assessments for all programme delivery
- Rigorously follow and implement Breathe's Safeguarding Policy



Job description

Programme Manager

Line Management

- Enthusiastically lead and line manage a programme delivery team, conducting regular 1:1 meetings and monitoring progress against objectives
- Line manage freelance programme staff as required, issuing contracts and briefs
- Manage any sickness, performance or training issues sensitively and proactively, ensuring staff are well supported and clear on the organisational expectations around performance

General

- Contribute to team meetings and company-wide initiatives
- Attend sector events to represent Breathe
- Adopt Breathe's company values of being Pioneering, Empowering, Collaborative, Inclusive and to act with Integrity
- Carry out all duties with an understanding of, and commitment to, equal opportunities, equality, diversity and inclusivity.

In addition, undertake any other duties or responsibilities which may reasonably be requested by the Deputy Head of Programmes or Senior Management Team.



Person specification

Essential Requirements

- Extensive project management experience, ideally in arts, arts and health, or healthcare contexts
- Proven successful partnership and stakeholder management
- Skilled at budget management, with high level attention to detail
- Experience of producing reports for funders or key stakeholders
- Experience and knowledge of supporting vulnerable people
- Excellent knowledge and competency in Safeguarding and GDPR
- Experience of line management
- Highly organised, able to work to strict deadlines and prioritise own workload
- Excellent communication and collaboration skills
- Highly capable with Microsoft Office programmes, CRM Systems and online platforms such as SharePoint, Zoom and Microsoft Teams

Desirable Experience

- Direct/indirect experience and knowledge of perinatal mental health needs
- Experience of research studies within arts/ creative health
- Knowledge of the arts and health sector
- Strong public speaking and presenting skills
- Experience at Safeguarding Officer / Lead level
- Experience utilising AI programmes such as Co-pilot to help streamline internal processes
- Experience of managing volunteers or student placements
- Knowledge of perinatal statutory services, such as the Best Start Family Hubs Programme

This job description is intended as an outline of the general areas of responsibility and will change 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.



About the role

Salary:

£34-37,000

Responsible to:

Deputy Head of Programmes

Location:

Blended Working Policy (more in office/ activity than out). Office at St George's Circus, London, SE1 6FE and regular attendance at programme activity.

Hours:

Full time, 5 days a week. Evening and weekend work required for which TOIL is granted.

Contract:

Permanent . Immediate start preferred (subject to notice period).

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

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
- 1 Creative Day per year in addition to annual leave.
- Employee Assistance Programme - including free counselling, 24/7 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.

If you'd like an informal and confidential chat about the role or application process, please email Hannah Morgan, Company and People Manager on applications@breatheahr.org, who will arrange for you to speak with a relevant member of the team.

Note: if possible, we would love for the candidate to be available for the next delivery of Breathe Melodies for Mums programmes, which start at the beginning of October.

How to apply

Breathe Arts Health Research is an equal opportunities employer, actively seeking to diversify our team and encourage applications from people with different backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences. We positively welcome applications from individuals who identify as people of global majority, d/Deaf and/or disabled and all underrepresented groups.

If you require any reasonable adjustments during the recruitment process, or if you would like to apply in an alternative format (e.g. video application), please email Hannah Morgan; applications@breatheahr.org

1. Write to us in no more than one A4 page, telling us:

- Why you are suitable for this role & 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 & indicate whether available for October programme start date.
- The names and contact details of two referees (only contacted after seeking permission).
- If you have used AI to write your application, and to what extent

2. Submit your CV (max 2 pages)

3. Complete our [Equal Opportunities form here](#) (this is for monitoring only and will be kept anonymous)

Submit your application via email to applications@breatheahr.org using the subject heading 'Application: Programme Manager'

Deadline for applications: Friday 4 September, 9am

First round Interviews: : Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 September, online

Second round Interviews: Wednesday 30th September, in person

Second Round Interview location: Breathe's office, SE1 6FE



Contact us

applications@breatheahr.org

020 3290 2013

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

@BreatheAHR

breatheahr.org