



**Transforming Early Psychosis Care through Translational Research  
DPhil in Psychiatry, University of Oxford · October 2026**

### **Overview**

Early intervention following the onset of psychosis provides a unique opportunity to improve long-term outcomes. Accurate assessment at presentation is critical for diagnosis, treatment selection and prognosis. There is growing interest in precision psychiatry and the use of biomarkers to improve early diagnosis and personalise treatment, yet relatively little evidence exists regarding how these approaches can be implemented within routine clinical services.

### **The Group**

You will join a growing translational psychosis research group based within the Department of Psychiatry, University of Oxford, and embedded within the Oxford Early Intervention in Psychosis Service. Our mission is to improve the diagnosis, assessment and early treatment of psychosis through clinically embedded translational research.

The successful candidate will become part of a newly established early psychosis translational research clinic, supported by Wellcome and NIHR funding. The programme combines detailed clinical phenotyping to develop and evaluate novel approaches to precision psychiatry in real-world clinical settings.

### **The DPhil**

The precise focus of the DPhil will be developed with the successful candidate to align with both the programme priorities and the candidate's academic interests, with a focus on developing clinically useful approaches to precision psychiatry. The project will combine a range of research methodologies, including evidence synthesis, prospective clinical cohort studies, neuroimaging, biomarker analyses and routinely collected healthcare data.

### **Training / Supervision**

Under the supervision of Dr Graham Blackman and colleagues within the Oxford Department of Psychiatry, you will receive training in a broad range of clinical research methods tailored to your project. Depending on the final project, this may include evidence synthesis, epidemiology, neuroimaging, biomarker research, implementation science and advanced statistical analysis.

You will work alongside an interdisciplinary team of clinicians and non-clinicians, with opportunities to present findings at national and international conferences and publish. The successful candidate will also be supported to develop an independent academic portfolio, including opportunities for publications, conference presentations and future academic clinical training.

**Candidate Profile**

We welcome ambitious applicants with a primary medical qualification (MBBS, MBChB or equivalent) and a strong interest in academic psychiatry, neuropsychiatry or clinical neuroscience.

Applicants should demonstrate evidence of independent research through a dissertation, Master's degree or substantial research project.

As the project involves clinically embedded research within NHS mental health services, applicants should be comfortable undertaking detailed clinical assessments under appropriate clinical supervision and integrating these assessments into a translational research programme. Excellent communication, organisational and collaborative skills are essential. We are committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and warmly encourage applications from candidates of all backgrounds.

**Funding/application**

The scholarship covers course fees up to the value of home fees\*, a tax-free stipend at the UKRI standard rate (£20,780 per annum), plus additional support for research expenses and conference attendance.

\*Applicants with overseas fee status would need to fund the fee difference from alternative sources.

Applications must be submitted via the University's online graduate application form. To access the application form and guidance please visit our website at [www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/apply](http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/apply). The application form, all supporting materials (including references), and £20 application fee must be received by the submission deadline.

**For informal enquiries please contact:** [graham.blackman@psych.ox.ac.uk](mailto:graham.blackman@psych.ox.ac.uk)

**Submission deadline:** 12.00 noon, Friday 24th July 2026

**Interview date:** w/c 10th August 2026

**Studentship code for application:** 26PSYCH07WEB