

Research culture

High priority is given to research within the School's activities spanning from the most junior to the most senior staff. We have a well tried and tested basic-clinical scientist partnerships structure, which sowing seeds for collaborative team-based approaches to research from the outset.

Collaborations

The school has strong collaborations with researchers in Europe, North and South America and the Far-East,

Xi'an, China (where Smith holds a Guest Professorship)
Global Universitas 21 network, links with
Hong Kong (Walmsley)
Otago (Cooper, Smith)

Our collaborations also span within the University of Birmingham and cross-disciplinary links with Schools including Biosciences, Sport and Exercise Science, Chemical Engineering and Materials & Metallurgy extend both the skill base within the School and access to cutting-edge technology.

Our approach is one in general of encouraging and facilitating team-based research both within the School and externally through collaborations. While our activities are focussed within the theme areas, we are keen to encourage new, exciting research developments when they emerge and our present structure is sufficiently flexible to allow this and to respond to new initiatives.

Nature and quality of research infrastructure

Recognition of the need for an effective infrastructure to support internationally competitive research has led the School to strategically develop both the facilities to conduct research and the other supporting infrastructure.

Policy and practice in relation to research governance

The School, through its Research Committee and the University's Research Governance office based in Research Enterprise Services, works closely with the SBPCT R & D office on all matters of research governance to ensure robust standards and effective management of our activities including assignment of research sponsorship, ethical approval, formal R & D approval and audit of these activities. A broad programme of staff training is also provided in this area.

The School has a licence from the HTA (no. 12313) for storage of human tissue for research and is represented by our Designated Individual (Chapple) on the University's Steering Group for Human Tissue Research & Governance.