

## Sian Lowri Griffiths

Doctoral Researcher

[School of Psychology \(/schools/psychology/index.aspx\)](/schools/psychology/index.aspx)

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### About

**Title of PhD:** Predictors of Functional Outcome in First Episode Psychosis

**Supervisors:** [Professor Max Birchwood \(/staff/profiles/psychology/birchwood-max.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/psychology/birchwood-max.aspx), [Professor Stephen Wood \(/staff/profiles/psychology/wood-stephen.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/psychology/wood-stephen.aspx)

Lowri is a research associate and doctoral researcher based at the School of Psychology, working within the area of Psychosis. Lowri is interested in social functioning and social disability in first episode psychosis, with a particular focus on social cognition and the neural correlates of Theory of Mind ability as predictors of social disability.

### Qualifications

MSc Clinical Psychology (Bangor University)

BSc (Hons) Clinical & Health Psychology (University of Wales, Bangor)

### Biography

After completing her MSc with distinction in Clinical Psychology at Bangor University, Lowri started working as research associate within the School of Psychology in 2008. During this time, she has worked for Prof. Max Birchwood on a multi-centre trial looking at the effectiveness of a new cognitive therapy to prevent harmful compliance with command hallucinations. Currently she continues to work as a research associate on the NIHR SuperEDEN study, which aims to provide the evidence base to develop the 'next generation' of early intervention in psychosis services (EIS). Alongside this work, Lowri is also completing a PhD looking at the predictors of functional outcome and social disability in first episode psychosis, under the supervision of Prof. Max Birchwood and Prof. Stephen Wood.

### Research

#### Research interests

Schizophrenia; First Episode Psychosis; Social Cognition and Neurocognition; Neuroimaging; Social functioning and Social Disability in first episode psychosis; Command Hallucinations.

### Other activities

Coordinator for the Psychosis Research Group, University of Birmingham.

### Publications

Griffiths, S.L., Michail, M., Birchwood, M., (Accepted, 2012). Cognitive Theory and Therapy for Command Hallucinations. *Journal of Experimental Psychopathology - Special Issue: Cognitive Processes in Psychosis*.

#### Conference presentations / published abstracts

Griffiths, S. L., Birchwood, M., Wood, S (2012) Predictors of Functional Outcome in First Episode Psychosis. *Accepted for Poster Presentation for the Mental Health Research Network 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting – April 2012*.

M. Birchwood, E. Peters, T. Wykes, N. Tarrier, S. Lewis, G. Dunn, L. Davies, H. Lester, M. Michail, S. L. Griffiths (2012). A Multicentre, Randomised Controlled Trial of Cognitive Therapy to Prevent Harmful Compliance with Command Hallucinations. *Accepted for poster presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Florence – April 2012 (\*Poster award finalist)*.

M. Birchwood, E. Peters, T. Wykes, N. Tarrier, S. Lewis, G. Dunn, L. Davies, H. Lester, M. Michail, S. L. Griffiths (2010). A Multicentre, Randomised Controlled Trial of Cognitive Therapy to Prevent Harmful Compliance with Command Hallucinations. *Early Intervention in Psychiatry, 4 (1)*, 147 (Poster presented at the International Early Psychosis Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, November 2010).

S. L. Griffiths (May, 2008) *Exploring the feasibility of Neurofeedback as a therapeutic tool*. Proceedings of the British Psychological Society Welsh Branch Annual Student Conference, Bangor University.



