

# Sheffield Hallam Health Innovation Campus At the Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park



Transforming lives through innovations and skills in health, sport, and sustainability.



## Vision, mission and ambition

The Sheffield Hallam Health Innovation Campus at the Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park transforms lives locally and globally through research, innovation and skills development in health, sport, and sustainability.

Through our world-class facilities, impactful partnerships, and nationally leading role in the civic university agenda, we have developed a dynamic and growing campus for advancing innovation, skills, research, economic growth, and community engagement - and based at the only Olympic Legacy Park in the world outside of a former host city.

Utilising our academic excellence, teaching, knowledge exchange, and partnerships, we will create a life-long learning campus, from early years to post-18 skills, and postgraduate research to continual professional development, connecting the whole skills and innovation life cycle.



Our Campus provides a blueprint for the symbiotic relationship between innovation and skills. We translate cutting-edge innovation and research into applied real-world delivery and skills, and diffuse evidence garnered from real-world application to support future innovation and knowledge creation – and all in the pursuit of supporting healthier, sustainable, and more prosperous lives.

**Our ambition:** For the Sheffield Hallam Health Innovation Campus to be the most advanced cluster for health, wellbeing and sustainability in the world, building capacity in skills, research, innovation, business support, and community engagement - and a model for regional investment and economic growth.

## Innovation and skills for the real world

The Sheffield Hallam Health Innovation Campus is home to two state-of-art facilities: the Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre (AWRC) and the National Centre of Excellence for Food Engineering (NCEFE).

The two Centres benefit from more than 200 researchers from across Sheffield Hallam, including health, sport, engineering, computing, design, robotics, and social sciences.

This creates a dynamic interdisciplinary setting, designed to encourage genuine collaboration, exploration and real-world impact.

Co-located academics, research centres, and projects include:

- National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine
- Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research
- AWRC Wellbeing Accelerator
- South Yorkshire Sustainability Centre (partnering with University of Sheffield, South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority, local authorities, private and voluntary sector)
- South Yorkshire Digital Health Hub (partner with University of Sheffield), based at the AWRC
- Research and Innovation Services

Our research centres, interdisciplinary working and academic staff build on an outstanding and longstanding reputation for health education and sporting excellence at Sheffield Hallam.

This story of sporting heritage and success, and focus on the importance of health and wellbeing, is woven into the wider history of the city and Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park site, and through many of our partnerships and wider institutional impact.

This includes:

- **Long-standing collaboration with the national English Institute of Sport**, for which we are the only university in the country with an innovation partnership. This includes working with teams based in Sheffield, such as GB Boxing
- **One of the largest sports and physical activity research clusters in the UK**, ranked fourth in the country for research power in the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF)
- **88% of our research in sport and physical activity rated as internationally excellent** or world leading (REF) for overall quality profile

Sheffield Hallam is also a leading national higher education institute for Health, Wellbeing and Life Sciences training, including:

- **One of the biggest healthcare training providers in the UK**, with more than 8,000 students across our College of Health, Wellbeing & Lifesciences
- **Partnerships with more than 30 NHS, private and voluntary organisations** to provide thousands of student placements each year
- First university in the country to provide **apprenticeships in Medical Ultrasound, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy**, with further apprenticeships in Dietetics and Operating Department Practice
- **More than 800 degree apprentices** across our growing portfolio of healthcare higher and degree apprenticeships
- **MSc Healthcare Analytics and Artificial Intelligence** developed with NHS and funded by the Office for Students
- **Partnership with Team GB athletes and teams** resulting in 24 Medals at London 2012, 41 medals at Rio 2016 and 39 medals at Tokyo 2020





## World-class facilities



### Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre (AWRC)

The AWRC's vision is to transform lives through innovations that help people move. The team brings together multiple academic disciplines and partnerships to co-produce research with industry, local communities, local authorities, charities and the health and technology sectors.

The AWRC provides state-of-the-art, fully equipped indoor and outdoor laboratories and access to researchers from specialities such as health, art and design, robotics, psychology, sport science, engineering and computer science.

The AWRC is the research hub for the National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine (NCSEM), translating knowledge from elite sport into the health sector to drive innovation in the promotion of physical activity as part of the London 2012 Olympic Legacy.

Through the NCSEM, the AWRC facilitates more than 100,000 musculoskeletal clinical appointments a year at Move More Centres across Sheffield – helping people sustain physical activity and leading to better health outcomes.

The AWRC is also home to the new South Yorkshire Digital Health Hub, in partnership with the University of Sheffield. The Hub will drive the development of innovative digital technologies to improve the way diseases are treated and diagnosed by using research and data from smartphones, wearables, new sensors - combining this with NHS data and artificial intelligence to develop new clinical tools.

A key priority for the AWRC is to drive innovation with business – from concept, through to commercialisation, and beyond. The AWRC Wellbeing Accelerator is an R&D-focused programme that supports pre-revenue and early-stage companies to develop products or services with health and wellbeing applications.

Alongside on-site collaboration, the AWRC team has built impactful relationships with partners locally, nationally and globally, including Pfizer, Yorkshire Cancer Research, FIFA, parkrun, and Westfield Health.

### National Centre of Excellence for Food Engineering (NCEFE)

NCEFE has a mission to drive vitality, sustainability and growth in the global food system.

In a cutting-edge facility, NCEFE works with partners to deliver world-class capability, sustainable food systems, technology-led solutions and sector competitiveness with regional, national and international food manufacturers. Key to this is recognising that engineering productivity solutions combined with energy efficiency and nutritious products will enable affordable food supplies of the future.

NCEFE delivers across four distinct research themes:

- Digital connectivity
- Food system sustainability
- Healthier lives
- Feeding a growing population

NCEFE is at the centre of an expanding network of businesses, industry groups, academic, manufacturers, and engineers, working together to solve specific business challenges within the food and drink system.

Research and innovation partners can access pilot-scale production facilities (unique in England), laboratories, workshops and teaching spaces, with current partners ranging from local SMEs to small overseas farmers and processors and large international brands, such as Greencore, Koolmill, Nestle, Quorn Foods, and Dext Heat Recovery.

NCEFE plays a key role in supporting the domestic food manufacturing sector to develop best practice in healthy living and illness prevention through the production of healthier foods. This includes working with many of South Yorkshire's thriving food brands and manufacturers as part of its strong foundational economy, including Mondelez International, New York Bagels, KP Nuts, Fresh-Pak, Oxo, Sharwoods and Yorkshire Crisps.

NCEFE is also a key partner in the South Yorkshire Sustainability Centre, alongside SYMCA and University of Sheffield, bringing together business and academia to co-design solutions to regional and global sustainability challenges and support decarbonisation. Projects that will be coordinated by the Centre include the optimisation and decarbonisation of transport routes, retrofitting housing stock, decarbonising the agri-food sector and heavy industry, and restoring the region's natural environments and assets.







## Partnership

Partnership and collaboration are core to the future development of the Health Innovation Campus. We will work with partners to help realise the ambitions and potential of the internationally recognised Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park.

We will continue to collaborate and co-design with our partners on the Park to support its ambition to enable a new future for wellbeing, preventive intervention, active lifestyles and opportunities to thrive. Our partners and collaborations at the park, include:

- UTC Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park
- Canon Medical Systems
- Sheffield Children's Hospital National Centre for Child Health Technology
- Oasis Academy Don Valley
- Accelerator organisations
- Legacy Park Limited

We will also create, support and nurture new and existing relationships with the NHS, local and national government, community organisations, education providers, SMEs, investors, global brands, and the wider private sector.

This partnership model will support strategic alignment with local and national government policy priorities including economic regeneration, healthier and longer lives, levelling up, connectivity, skills and education, digital and technological innovation, and environmental sustainability.

## Skills

The Health Innovation Campus offers capacity across the full skills and innovation life cycle, from early years to postgraduate research, and apprenticeships to life-long learning and beyond.

Working with education, health and private sector partners, we focus on tackling key issues such as skills shortages, education progression routes, apprenticeship opportunities, cutting edge technology and practice, work-based learning, outreach work with under-served communities, lifelong learning, and continued professional development.

The Health Innovation Campus connects with our City, Collegiate, and London campuses - physically, digitally and academically. This includes the home of the new South Yorkshire Institute of Technology (SYIoT) at our City Campus redevelopment (partnership with DN Colleges Group, Barnsley College, University of Sheffield AMRC Training Centre). The SYIoT will deliver specialist provision in healthcare science, digital, and engineering/manufacturing.

This connected provision ensures that our learners, across all age groups and career stages, enjoy a joined-up skills offer with access to world-class facilities and expertise, and an outstanding learning environment in which to develop and progress.

## Community

As a proud civic university, committed to making a tangible and positive impact on our place, the Sheffield Hallam Health Innovation Campus is a beacon for our place-based priorities outlined in our university strategy, Transforming Lives, our Civic University Agreement, and our climate action strategy.

This means demonstrable impact through the regeneration of space and environment of the local area, development of skills and education pathways for the region, and the co-design of services and projects with the community.

We will also use our position to enhance the Park's strong connection to its location in Attercliffe, truly embedding and integrating the facilities as part of the local area, opening up spaces to sports clubs and community groups, and adding to the vibrant and inclusive community on the park.

And through our Health Innovation Campus, we will take a lead role in driving the health, wellbeing and life sciences cluster for South Yorkshire, where universities, businesses and communities work together to create healthier, sustainable and more prosperous futures.

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