

**AIR BALLOON SURGERY
KENN ROAD
ST GEORGE
BRISTOL
BS5 7PD**

**Enquiries and Appointments (0117) 9099912
www.airballoonsurgery.co.uk**



Practice Profile

Temporary Associate (Salaried) GP to cover Maternity Leave

Partners

**Dr Philip Simmons
Dr Oliver Marshall**

Dr Joanna Allerton

Dr Shivani Baynham

Associate GPs

**Dr Maeve Caviston Diffley
Dr Clare Smith
Dr William Stanger (temp
from 5th October 2026)**

**Dr Elinor Gunning
Dr Sarah Sneller**

**Dr Sarah Kerr
Dr Camilla Gorard**

Practice Manager

Kate Milne-Brown

About the post

We have a fabulous team here at Air Balloon Surgery, making it a great place to work. We have a temporary vacancy to cover the maternity leave of one of our Associate GPs which we anticipate is likely to be from mid-February 2027. We are looking to cover the five sessions per week, ideally for the duration of the maternity leave which could be up to a year. This vacancy could suit newly qualified GPs looking for their first steps in General Practice, or more established GPs looking to enhance your GP career.

We are a supportive, friendly, caring Practice and we support and develop our GPs with a comprehensive induction programme, and ongoing protected monthly mentoring time.

We actively encourage colleagues to develop individual interests and value the importance of being inspired and enthused by our work. We hold weekly lunchtime meetings with the clinical team - an opportunity to discuss clinical cases as well as see the team socially.

Dr Philip Simmons, Dr Shivani Baynham, Dr Joanna Allerton & Dr Oliver Marshall

Ensuring a healthy work-life balance is prominent in our decision making - we strive and continue to make adjustments to our working structure to ensure this. Your opinion and well-being matter, and we are open to new ideas and ways of working.

We are a GP Training Practice, supporting medical students, Foundation doctors and ST trainees.

We introduced Total Online Triage in October 2025, and on-call and triage are shared across the GP team on a pro-rata basis.

We operate a system of flexibility around how and where administration is performed. Remote working is an option some GPs choose in order to manage their clinical administration. All salaried GPs are linked to a partner for mentoring, are encouraged to engage with the practice's clinical education programme, and are supported in their own development needs.

There is a clinical team meeting each Thursday lunchtime and successful candidates would be welcome and encouraged to attend this where possible, either in person or virtually, even if this is not a normal working day.

Hours

5 sessions per week, ideally covering the current post-holder's working pattern of full days Wednesday and Thursday, and Friday mornings.

Pay

Pay is based on an annual sessional rate of £11,755 per session per year. For a five session GP, this would equate to £58,774 gross basic pay per year, or £4,898 per calendar month. We also cover the cost of indemnity cover.

About us

We are a well established enterprising General Practice based in St George about three miles east from the vibrant city centre of Bristol. We feel we can offer a rewarding working life, with a large and lively team committed to providing excellent patient care but also with a firm commitment to personal and professional development. Our current GP complement (from 1st October 2026) will consist of four partners and six associate (salaried) GPs.

The catchment area is fairly compact, covering St George and surrounding suburbs. The practice population is about 13,500. The majority of patients are in social classes three to five and there are many extended families on the register. More young professional patients are starting to move into the area, attracted by easy access to Bristol without central Bristol house prices. Unemployment is similar to the national average. There is a small but growing number of patients from ethnic minorities. Around 16% of patients are aged over sixty-five and 6% under 5 years old. Although reasonably close to the city centre, we do not have issues commonly associated with inner city areas although many of our patients have complex morbidity and social problems.

We have developed particular skills in providing general practice services to care and nursing homes and feel that we have effective and robust systems and processes to provide effective clinical services to these homes offering diverse patient care. We look after a 67-bed high

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dependency nursing home which is adjacent to the practice. We also care for the residents of a 40-bed unit for patients with dementia. We also have a number of other smaller residential units for people with Learning Difficulties. Our practice Pharmacy Technician shares the annual Learning Difficulties reviews with one of our HCA's.

The practice is based in well designed, spacious, purpose-built premises with attractive consultation rooms and space for housing a full complement of employed and attached staff. There is also an attached community pharmacy.

We contract for all of the DES and LES services offered by the various contract providers. We generally perform well for all clinical areas and achieve all our targets.

We use Emis Web and Docman for managing clinical data. All IT is fully networked and clinical data is either electronically received and managed or scanned in and managed. We have a policy of electronically storing and sharing clinical and non-clinical information. We have a continuing programme of reducing paper. Electronic prescribing is well established and we also use text messaging for patients. We have recently digitalised all medical records, and worked with Onecare and BNSSG to trial the use of Heidi Health, an NHS-approved ambient AI Scribe Programme, for the recording of clinical consultations.

We hold weekly clinical meetings, at which we discuss matters relating to the day-to-day organisation of services affecting the clinical team. A more formal clinical education meeting is held twice monthly. The programme includes case studies, SEA, clinical IT, invited speakers etc. The post holder would be welcome to attend this meeting if available. This is an opportunity to team build, share issues and to personally grow and develop. The partners and practice manager also meet every week to discuss strategic and business matters.

The Team

We are a team who believe that a friendly and supportive working environment is vital. General practice can be a pressurised environment and we work hard to get the balance right between home and work life. We regularly meet both formally and informally, and we introduced dedicated whole practice lunchtime training sessions once every four months from February 2026, including lunch.

We have a large team of supporting staff employed by the practice, including a full complement of practice nurses, health care assistants, LARC coil and implant nurse, Home Visiting Physiotherapist, Social Prescriber, Care Navigators, and administrative support staff, as well as a practice manager, assistant practice manager, finance officer and HR manager.

District nurses, Health Visitors and Midwives are based at neighbouring surgeries, and we enjoy a close working relationship with them. Medical services are well supported by an extensive, well skilled and experienced nursing team.

Quotes from Our Staff and Stakeholders

We have a reputation for being very friendly and supportive to those directly working in the practice and those we work with across the health and social services community.

Here are just a few:

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“Genuinely the best place I’ve ever worked!”

“Thank you for being such a friendly, welcoming, warm bunch of amazing people. I’ve never worked anywhere that has been as welcoming as you all are.....I don’t think any other team will really compare”

“This is the best place I have ever worked. You listened to my problems and sorted things out quickly”

“I feel truly honoured to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed my 14 years at the surgery, it has been such a lovely place to work”

“The team worked really hard and made all sorts of changes to the room to help us to make (patient x) as relaxed as possible when we brought him in” This from a local home for patients with Learning Difficulties.

Working at Scale- PCN

We are part of the FABB Primary Care network with 2 other practices, Fishponds Family Practice and Beechwood Surgery. We enjoy a productive working relationship and feel that being part of a small PCN brings considerable benefits.

The two Fishponds practices employ their own clinical practice pharmacists.

Innovation

OneCare is a Federation which represents and supports general practice across Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset. We were early members of One Care, looking at innovation and development in general practice. We have taken part, as a practice, in pilot projects to explore different working practices.

The practice has a strong interest in teaching and research. We are a GP Training Practice, supporting ST Trainees and Foundation doctors. Two of our Partners are GP Appraisers for NHS England and both are also GP Trainers, as well as one of our Associate GPs.

Further Details

We would be delighted to speak with you prior to your application, and potential applicants are welcome to speak to partners Dr Shivani Baynham Shivani.baynham@nhs.net , Dr Phil Simmons Philip.simmons@nhs.net or Dr Jo Allerton joanna.allerton@nhs.net, or Practice Manager Kate Milne-Brown kate.milne-brown@nhs.net .

Applications and closing date

Applications, including a CV and covering letter, should be emailed to Miffy Saunders, HR Manager, at myfanwy.saunders@nhs.net by the closing date of 09:00 Monday 19th October 2026.

Interviews

Dr Philip Simmons, Dr Shivani Baynham, Dr Joanna Allerton & Dr Oliver Marshall

Interviews are likely to be held on a Thursday morning, likely Thursday 22nd October 2026, here at Air Balloon Surgery. Details to be arranged and confirmed with shortlisted applicants in due course.

Please also visit our website <http://www.airballoonsurgery.co.uk>

V3 Sept 2026

Dr Philip Simmons, Dr Shivani Baynham, Dr Joanna Allerton & Dr Oliver Marshall