

Outstanding Innovation Award 2023 open for submissions



Credit: PhotographerKetut Subiyanto

The British Society of Paediatric Dentistry's (BSPD's) Outstanding Innovation Award (OIA) is open for entries until 17 February 2023. The winner will be notified by the end of the month.

The award celebrates inspiring and innovative schemes to improve the oral health of children. Entries are invited from anyone who is

a member of BSPD at the time of submission, with an initiative or scheme which has had a demonstrable impact on children's oral health.

This award was established in 2017 to recognise, and encourage, the work of BSPD's members in the area of innovation. By providing positive publicity for the initiative and its creator, the Society aims to encourage, promote and disseminate good practice.

All entries must be projects initiated or managed by BSPD members and the project must be UK-based. Entries will be judged against the criteria by a sub-committee of BSPD Executive. Each member will score the projects independently and the sub-committee will then meet to agree an overall winner. The sub-committee may offer commendation for any exceptional projects that do not win.

The 2022 joint winners were Jemma Facenfield for her *Dental clinic for looked-after children and adolescents* and Lucy Ridsdale for *Dental care pathways for looked-after children*.

The Award is presented each year at the Society's Annual Scientific Conference in September. The winner's prize also includes:

- Free entry to attend one day of the Conference
- One night's accommodation and UK travel, booked in line with the Society's Expenses Policy
- Allocated time in the Conference programme to give a 20-minute presentation on the project
- A BSPD press release, including photograph, disseminated to the dental press.

For more information and to download the application form visit <https://www.bspd.co.uk/Professionals/Awards-and-Prizes/The-Outstanding-Innovation-Award>.



Applications now open for BFS Career Development Fellowship

The British Fluoridation Society (BFS), supported by the Borrow Foundation, is seeking to recruit a new candidate to its Career Development Fellowship.

Overall, £30,000 has been allocated for the provision of two BFS Career Development Fellowships during the next 18 to 24 months.

The BFS hopes to have its first fellowship awarded by the end of the year and is seeking applications from dental professionals at the beginning of their career with an interest in water fluoridation.

Dr Ray Lowry, BFS Secretary, said: 'This is an exciting career development opportunity for someone at the start of their professional career. Water fluoridation plays a significant role in preventing dental caries and securing good dental health for all. Despite its long history as a successful oral health intervention, only 10% of the UK population drinks fluoridated water, and these people are benefitting from schemes that were introduced many decades ago.'

'Globally, more than four hundred million people have access to fluoridated water, and we are seeing an increase in political enthusiasm,



including here in the UK, for more community water fluoridation schemes.

'Together with the Borrow Foundation, we have identified a need to bolster the professional foundation for fluoridation to keep research relevant, and to encourage our younger colleagues to pursue the issue as a viable career interest.'

'Through our fellowship programme, we aim to help build a modern UK database of evidence and to encourage up and coming colleagues to engage in the subject. The BFS is the obvious organisation to initiate this sort of intervention as we work to support the next generation of fluoridation advocates.'

The successful candidate will have the opportunity to meet leaders in the field and work to develop a unique insight into water fluoridation and the issues surrounding it, using the fellowship funding and international partnership networks.

The closing date for applications is 30 June 2023. The process can be accessed on the British Fluoridation website: <https://bfsweb.org/career-development/>.

