



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



AHRC funded PhD Studentship Collaborative Doctoral Award

Instrumental learning? Object lessons in recapturing past science teaching

A collaboration between the University of Leeds and the Science Museum

Available from October 2018 on either a full-time (42 months) or part-time (60 months) basis



Images from the Science Museum's Science [Teaching collection](#)

We all enjoy looking at instruments used in past science teaching - but how should we interpret them? Has practical science education over the last century inspired scientific creativity? How have changes in school laboratory equipment interacted with new ways of learning and using science? Can biographies of classic apparatus inform our understanding of how science has been learned – or not learned – in the classroom?

For anyone with an interest in the history of science education, whether trained in science, education, history or museums studies, this PhD project presents an exciting opportunity to explore the historic science teaching collections of both the Science Museum and the University of Leeds. The results of the project may be used to inform both future science teaching and museum policies on exhibiting science teaching.

Applicants should have, or expect to attain, a good undergraduate degree and meet AHRC eligibility criteria: <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/documents/documents/termsconditionstraininggrants-pdf> . Applications should include: a curriculum vitae (no more than 2 sides of A4); a sample of writing (3,000 words max); and a covering letter including a 500-word research proposal on the above project.

Please send completed applications to g.j.n.gooday@leeds.ac.uk by Monday April 30th 5pm.

For further information about the project contact the project supervisors:

Jane Desborough (Science Museum) jane.desborough@sciencemuseum.ac.uk

or **Graeme Gooday** (University of Leeds) g.j.n.gooday@leeds.ac.uk

The supervisory team also includes science educator **Indira Banner** i.banner@education.leeds.ac.uk