

You will be an integral part of the Air and Space Operations team utilising modern RADAR, tactical data links, communications and IT systems. You will contribute to the RAF's counter air terrorism, missile warning and space surveillance missions.

Aerospace Systems (AS) is merging with Flight Operations (FO) as of 01 April 2021 to form a single Air & Space Operations Specialist trade. Entry into separate AS and FO trades will continue until April 2022. Upon completion of Specialist Training you will be offered the opportunity to transfer into the new Air and Space Operations Specialist trade.

KEY POINTS

- Assist in the scrambling of Quick Reaction Alert Typhoon jets to intercept suspect aircraft.
- Keep watch for foreign missile launches and monitor foreign surveillance satellites to warn friendly forces they may be being observed from space.
- Monitor and identify all aircraft flying within UK airspace and throughout NW Europe.

TRADE OVERVIEW

As an Air & Space Operations Specialist (Aerospace Systems) you are the eyes and ears of the RAF. You will play a vital part in UK homeland defence, contribute to the security of UK overseas territories and UK Armed Forces serving abroad and be a part of the UK Government's mission to act as a force for good throughout the world. Throughout your career you will operate from a hardened Command and Control Centre; a deployed Command and Control Radar Unit, working and living in field conditions both in the UK and overseas; a missile warning/space surveillance radar unit; RAF Main Operating Bases and Royal Navy (RN) Air Defence ships. You will assist in the direction of fighter, ground attack, surveillance and refuelling aircraft operating to maintain control of the air. In the Space environment, you will help provide a 24-hour Ballistic Missile Early Warning and Space Surveillance service to UK and US senior leadership. You may also have the opportunity to work with Data Links, Electronic Warfare units and ISTAR platforms. Throughout your career you may be required to serve overseas on a detachment as part of your role for a number of months, or as a full-time posting to certain locations working alongside other services and nations. Your duties will be similar to those at your home station, but will be more demanding in an operational environment.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS:

- Level 3 Diploma in IT User Skills
- Communication skills
- Teamwork
- Sound decision making
- Problem solving
- Robustness/Resilience
- Personal responsibility
- Leadership & Management

The Diploma and specialist skills you can gain during your service are as valuable in the civilian world as they are in the RAF – which means that whenever you decide to leave the Service, you will be well placed to find another career.

RECRUIT TRAINING

Your career will start with a 10-week Basic Recruit Training Course at RAF Halton in Buckinghamshire. This is designed to help you adjust to a military environment and, as well as fitness and military training, you will learn about the RAF lifestyle.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Level 3 Diploma in IT User Skills

REWARDS FROM RAF LIFE

- Competitive pay and pension
- Training and lifelong learning
- Six weeks paid leave and public holidays
- Free medical and dental care
- Subsidised food and accommodation
- Free gym and sports facilities
- Adventurous training opportunities

REGULAR ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Air & Space Operations Specialist (Aerospace Systems)

Age: 16–47*

*Must attest before 48th birthday. (If you are under 18 years of age, you will need consent from a parent or guardian before you apply however you may commence your application from 15 years and 9 months).

Qualifications:

You need GCSEs at Grade C (Grade 4 to 5 with effect from Aug 17) or equivalent in English Language and Mathematics or SCE Standard Grades at Grade 2/Scottish National 5 (Grade A – C) in English and Mathematics.

SPECIALIST TRAINING

The next step is the 8-week Aerospace Systems Specialist Course at RAF Shawbury in Shropshire. Here you will learn about:

- Modern Air Battle Management and its development from the proud legacy of the Battle of Britain.
- The interpretation and operation of complex radar systems.
- Data Links and communication networks: how they work and are used to communicate with aircraft, RN ships and ground stations.
- Missile Warning and Space Surveillance.
- Joint Land and Maritime operations.
- The capabilities of aircraft and weapons systems currently operated by the RAF and its allies.
- You will be trained and examined in a simulated and/or live operational environment.

YOUR FIRST ASSIGNMENT

This is likely to be in an airspace monitoring role at the Control and Reporting Centre at RAF Boulmer or on the Mobile Radar Unit. You may later be selected to be employed with 49 Battery, attached to 16 Regiment Royal Artillery, assisting in the provision of an air situational awareness to the Army. Alternatively, a post on 54Sqn at RAF Waddington would see you supporting the training of E3-D Mission Crews, Electronic Warfare Operator at RAF Spadeadam or as a Space Surveillance Operator at RAF Fylingdales. In all cases you will utilise communication equipment to liaise with air, land or maritime units. All first tours are for a minimum of 3 years.

ONGOING TRAINING/DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As your skills, experience and time in service grow, you could serve in broader trade and wider RAF roles including:

- Missile Warning and Space duties or overseas in locations such as Falklands, Cyprus, Italy, Germany, Spain and the USA.
- Serve as an Air & Space Operations Manager working in the management of personnel, systems and information with a 3-5yr assignment duration.
- Trade/recruit instructor or recruiting duties – 3yr fixed assignment duration.

YOUR FUTURE CAREER PROSPECTS AND PROGRESSION:

After completing your first year of service you will be eligible for promotion to Senior Aircraftman, providing you pass Basic Trade Training and a Trade Ability Test. Further advancement to Corporal and beyond is by competitive selection. If successful, to prepare you for Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) service, you will attend further leadership and management training at the Airman's Command School, RAF Halton. The courses are accredited by the Chartered Management Institute. Aerospace Systems is merging with Flight Operations. There will be future employment opportunities such as a Squadron or Station Operations (Fast Jet, Air Transport, Helicopter and Remote Piloted Air System). Additionally, further opportunities may include working with future platforms such as Lightning II, E7 and P8 Poseidon. The Air & Space Operations trade is expected to play a large role within Space Command.

Pay:

Visit <https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>

Selection: You will be assessed on physical fitness and medical eligibility. Additionally, you will also be required to complete the Airmen's Selection Test at your local AFCO to a standard appropriate to your choice of trade

Residency: Whether or not you were born in the United Kingdom, you should have resided there for the 5 years immediately preceding your application but candidates with a minimum of 3 years will be considered.

Nationality:

You must be a citizen of the United Kingdom or the holder of dual UK/other nationality.

A Modern Force: The RAF recognises the value of a person's ability no matter their ethnicity, social background, religion or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status/civil partnership.



Register your interest in this role:
Online:

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>

Or

Telephone: 0345 605 5555

To access the Trade Ambassador Network (TAN) Scheme and connect with a specialist in your local area, please contact:

CRN-RecruitSelect-AOSRGrp@mod.gov.uk

This information was last updated on 03 Aug 21, but may have changed since. If you have any queries, please check with RAF Staff at any Armed Forces Careers Office

Search online for other trades both Regular and Reserve

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>



**NO
ORDINARY
JOB**