



Candidate Information

Position:	Research Assistant
School/Department:	School of Psychology
Reference:	18/106999
Closing Date:	Wednesday 28 November 2018
Salary:	£27,831 - £32,236 per annum (potential to progress to £35,210 per annum through sustained exceptional contribution)
Anticipated Interview Date:	Tuesday 4 December 2018
Duration:	24 Months

JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the research team assisting in the planning and delivery of research activity in the area of Cognitive Development. The research assistant will be based in the School of Psychology in a team led by Professor Teresa McCormack. The research activity will involve testing children and adolescents in both school and laboratory-based settings, examining developmental changes in children's thinking and decision making.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake basic research activities including data collection in schools and in the laboratory, computer-based data processing and analysis, interpretation of data, preparation of data for archiving, and literature searches.
2. Prepare applications for the approval of the Ethics Committee.
3. Recruit participants for the studies, including liaising with schools and other organisations as required.
4. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research team or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
5. Assist in writing up results of own work and contribute to the production of research reports and publications.
6. Carry out routine administrative duties as requested, e.g., arranging research group meetings, maintaining research group website.
7. Read academic papers to keep abreast of developments.
8. Carry out any other duties designated by a line manager and which fall within the general ambit of the post.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan own day-to-day activity within the framework of the agreed research programme.
2. Contribute to the planning of research projects, reports, dissemination activities, and publications.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students who may be assisting with research.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise with research colleagues and support staff on routine matters.
2. Make internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.
3. Attend and contribute to relevant meetings.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Undergraduate Honours degree in psychology at 2.1 level or above, eligible for BPS accreditation (or equivalent) OR an undergraduate degree in a related area along with a postgraduate qualification in psychology.
2. Significant demonstrable experience of working with children and/or adolescents, either in a voluntary or paid capacity.

3. Proven experience and competency in data entry and analysis using a computerised statistical package such as SPSS (Undergraduate project work can be classed as experience if competent in SPSS functionality).
4. Sufficient breadth or depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline of psychology and of research methods and techniques.
5. Ability to contribute to the design of experimental studies.
6. Established interest in developmental psychology.
7. Ability to interact with research colleagues and support staff, including technical staff.
8. Ability to analyse and communicate effectively.
9. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
10. Excellent time management and planning skills.
11. Enthusiasm for working in a research team.
12. Must be willing and able to travel throughout Northern Ireland to visit schools.
13. An enhanced Access NI check is required for this post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Proven Experience of conducting research with children or adolescents.
2. Experience of working as a paid research assistant conducting research with children and/or adolescents in a school-based or laboratory-based setting.
3. Experience of liaising with schools to conduct research.