

Candidate Information

Position:	Senior Research Fellow (Irwin Fellowship)
School/Department:	QCAP (Queen's Communities and Place)
Reference:	22/110465
Closing Date:	Monday 12 December 2022
Salary:	£43,414 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Monday 9 January 2023
Duration:	Fixed term for 36 months or available until 31 January 2026, whichever is sooner.

JOB PURPOSE:

The Schools of Social Science, Education and Social Work (SSESW) and Medicine, Dentistry & Biomedical Sciences (MDBS) at Queen's University Belfast, are currently seeking to appoint an exceptional candidate to the post of Senior Research Fellow.

The post is the first dedicated cross-disciplinary Fellowship in Mental Health at Queen's. Its purpose will be to drive pioneering research and open up new avenues of enquiry, supported by and leveraging priority themes and projects across the University, with the ultimate goal of research centred on improving child and adolescent mental health within community settings.

The post is timely given the launch of the new Northern Ireland Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031, the roll out of the Regional Trauma Network and the People and Place Strategy for NI. The Fellow will act as a key Queen's University ambassador for child and adolescent mental health within the dynamic and growing cross disciplinary research community, advance evidence on child and adolescent mental health outcomes through working collaboratively with local partners and informed by the voice of the local community through the Queen's Communities and Place (QCAP) initiative.

The Fellow would benefit from the learning afforded by ongoing connections with official international partnerships including: Chapin Hall, University of Chicago; and the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, National University Ireland Galway. On a local level, QCAP has secured pioneering and innovative community engagement partnerships with the aim of collaboratively addressing community challenges in the areas of child and adolescent mental health. QCAP would support the Fellow, through this established outreach and engagement with schools and community groups, to work hand-in-hand with children and adolescents.

The Fellow would also engage with charitable partners and relevant industry and academic groups, both locally and internationally, to become a future ambassador for children's mental health. In addition, the post would include membership of the prestigious 'Fellowship Academy', a comprehensive and bespoke development scheme that will include access to a Fellows Network, Mentorship Programme and a range of professional training and development opportunities delivered via workshop sessions, online learning and peer coaching groups.

The Fellow would also have the opportunity to avail of exchange programmes and travel opportunities.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Develop and maintain a personal research plan within the broad Child and Adolescent mental health field engaging in community settings.
2. Maintain a high quality publication record by continuing to produce, publish and present work linked to the research portfolio at conferences and community events.
3. Continue engagement in the range of scholarly activity linked to the Child and Adolescent mental health. place research plan. Including presentations at multi-disciplinary conferences papers and lay research summaries suitable across academic policy and lay audiences.
4. Contribute to securing external funding from a range of sources (UKRI, charities and Government sources).

5. Provide expert advice on children and young people's mental health/communities research across QUB.
6. Develop research proposals and funding bids in collaboration with others to ensure continued growth of the SSESW/MDBS interdisciplinary research portfolios.
7. Develop and engage in research methodologies that add to knowledge/understanding appropriate to the discipline.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. An upper second class honours degree (or equivalent) or a Masters degree, in a directly relevant subject including the social sciences, medicine, nursing and psychology.
2. Have a PhD in a relevant subject.
3. At least two years' experience of health and social care research within the field of the mental health of children and young people .
4. Experience in quantitative and qualitative data analysis.
5. Good understanding of the key issues and challenges associated with engagement with communities for research studies.
6. Experience of communicating research to lay audiences.
7. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
8. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by links with stakeholders such as schools and policy makers.
9. Willingness to undertake additional training in engaged research with communities /statistics/research methods and other related skills as required.
10. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
11. Evidence of a high standard of report writing skills.
12. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
13. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
14. Ability to assess and organise resources.
15. Evidence of being able to work flexibly and to meet deadlines.
16. Willingness to work as part of a team.
17. Willingness to travel around Northern Ireland as required.
18. Current valid driving licence and access to a car or ability to fulfil the mobility requirements of the post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience of conducting or analysing quantitative data from evaluations of mental health interventions (specifically psycho/social) or education programmes, especially using experimental designs.
2. Clear understanding of the research impact agenda.
3. Experience of evaluative research.
4. Experience of Participatory Action Research.
5. Experience of managing research projects.
6. Experience of writing reports to external funders.
7. Experience of successfully organising events.
8. Prior experience of linking with external colleagues and developing networks.