

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow (Accreditation)
School/Department:	School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work
Reference:	26/113197
Closing Date:	Monday 16 March 2026
Salary:	£41,519 to £44,035 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Monday 13 April 2026
Duration:	12 months

JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the School of Social Sciences Education and Social Work (SSESW) and the Centre for Evidence Based Youth Services. Travel will be expected across NI and ROI at regular intervals, with international travel at time. Evening and weekend work will be routine.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Contribute to the co-development of work packages within the Centre for Evidence Based Children's Services.
2. To explore novel ways to recognise and accredit intervention programmes.
3. To contribute to the review and accreditation of interventions for children and young people involved in serious and violent offending and/or whom are victims of criminal exploitation, alongside community partners.
4. To contribute to the dissemination of research findings.
5. To present research findings to a range of audiences, including, the Education Authority, Department of Justice and a range of voluntary and community sector organisations.
6. Contributing to the generation of research income through the development of research proposals.
7. Preparing material for publication in national and international journals, presentations at international conferences, press releases and social media sites.
8. Carrying out routine administrative tasks associated with SSESW. These might include organisation of meetings and associated documentation.
9. Other specific duties as allocated by the co-directors of the Centre.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. An upper second class honours degree (or equivalent) in a relevant field (e.g., youth work, criminology, behavioural science, public health) or a Masters degree in a relevant area.
2. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in a relevant subject (within 6 months).
3. Substantial experience of engaging with statutory agencies (e.g., police, probation, education) in an applied research setting.
4. Research related to intervention design and/or evaluation.
5. Ability to develop high-quality publications record that is REF returnable.
6. Experience of communicating research to lay audiences.
7. Ability to work independently with an agreed workplan.
8. Ability to work in partnership with colleagues as a team.
9. Contribute to the University's outreach programme by making links with external community stakeholders.
10. Good understanding of the processes involved in accrediting community interventions and supports.
11. Ability to develop and manage a public facing dashboard with details of promising and evidence supported programmes.
12. Good understanding of the opportunities and challenges associated with partnership working within a research environment.
13. Ability to communicate complex information clearly, including the use of methods of data visualisation.
14. Evidence of a high standard of report writing skills.
15. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
16. Demonstrable intellectual ability.

17. Ability to assess and organise resources.
18. Evidence of being able to work flexibly and to meet deadlines.
19. Willingness to work as part of a team.
20. Willingness to travel.
21. Current valid driving licence and access to a car insured for business purposes OR access to transport that will enable necessary travel across NI, ROI and internationally.
22. Evening and weekend work will be frequent.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. A PhD relevant to behavioural science.
2. Experience of programme/intervention review.
3. Substantial experience of intervention coproduction.
4. An understanding of implementation science.
5. Mixed methods research experience.
6. Understanding of the benefits and limitations of RCT and/or quasi-experimental designs.
7. A record of being part of a funding bid and successfully attracting external research funding.
8. Experience of reviewing/moderating interventions.