

Research Role Profile

Job Title:	Research Assistant
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Responsible to:	Head of research group, or principal investigator
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Responsible for:	There is no direct supervisory responsibility
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Job Summary and Purpose:
To support research activity in accordance with specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator

Main Responsibilities/Activities
<p>To support a research team by contributing to the planning of research projects and undertaking prescribed research tasks in accordance with specified research project(s), making use of standard research techniques and methods. These may include fieldwork, interviews, laboratory experimentation, computer-based data analysis or library research as directed by the research award holder and will entail co-ordinating own work with that of others to avoid conflict or duplication of effort. Analysing and interpreting results of own research, under the guidance of research award holder or supervisor. Write up results and contribute to the preparation of papers for submission to appropriate journals and conferences, and other outputs as required and/or appropriate. Attend appropriate conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results of personal development.</p> <p>Continually update knowledge and develop skills</p> <p>To carry out routine administrative tasks associated with a specified research project, for example risk assessment of research tasks, organisation of project meetings and documentation. This will entail planning own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed programme, dealing with problems that may affect the achievement of research objectives and deadlines and implementing procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting and financial control</p> <p>Demonstrating, or occasionally assisting with undergraduate supervision within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of the Faculty academic staff.</p>

Research Role Profile

Person Specification**The post holder must have:**

A first degree or a professional qualification or equivalent in a relevant subject.

Whilst there is no requirement for previous work experience, the post holder will be expected to be able to support research activities by performing experiments and/or undertaking studies and analysing/ interpreting results.

Relationships and Contacts

Direct responsibility to the principal investigator or academic supervisor.

Special Requirements

To be available to participate in fieldwork as required by the specified research project.

All staff are expected to:

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities policy.
- Help maintain a safe working environment by:
 - Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand
 - Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy
- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.

ADDENDUM

Job Title:	Research Assistant in Neurodiversity & Motor Skills Development
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Main Responsibilities/Activities

This information sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying generic Research Assistant Role Profile and will be used for shortlisting processes.

We are seeking a graduate research assistant to join an exciting new project: '*Motor impairments and strategies in developing neurodiverse brains*', funded by the Waterloo Foundation.

- You will be working at the interface between developmental psychology, education, and neurodiversity.
- You will recruit families and collect data in schools to understand how movement develops in typically developing children and in children with Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) / Dyspraxia. This position will thus involve a lot of visits in different schools and requires for you to be mobile.
- You will have weekly supervision from Dr Marie Martel and will work closely with Dr Judith Gentle and Dr Lewis Jayes, and other research assistants of the MoDI Lab. The Motor Development and Impact (MoDI) Lab was set up in 2016 to bring together research at the University of Surrey which investigates typical and atypical motor development and its impact across the lifespan on social and cognitive skills, as well as physical and mental health.
- You will also contribute to report writing, presentations, publications and dissemination to non-academic audiences.

You will be required to

1. Maintain positive relationships with schools throughout the project.
2. Comply with ethical procedures and data protection requirements.
3. Collect data on movement skills in typically developing children and neurodivergent children.
4. Contribute to the preparation of written outputs for academic and non-academic audiences.
5. To undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

Person Specification

In addition to the criteria outlined in the accompanying generic Research Assistant Role Profile, the post holder should have:

Essential

1. A BSc or equivalent qualification in Psychology or a related subject.
2. Experience in data collection and participant recruitment.
3. A strong interest in working with children.
4. The ability to work sensitively with special populations.
5. Demonstrable critical thinking skills and ability to evaluate psychological research.
6. The ability to work independently, as well as proven ability to engage in successful teamwork with a collegial approach.
7. Excellent organisation and communication skills.
8. Ability to analyse and communicate research findings effectively to a non-specialist audience.

Desirable

9. Experience in recruitment and testing involving children.
10. Knowledge of Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) / Dyspraxia.
11. Experience with R for data analysis.

Special Requirements

Eligible to work with children (a DBS will be required).

Background Information

The post will be based in the Department of Psychological Sciences, within the University's School of Psychology, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences.