

Department of Mathematics Education
School of Science

Research Assistant in Centre for Early Mathematics Learning

Job Ref: REQ240427

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.

This is an opportunity for a researcher to join the ESRC-funded Centre for Early Mathematics Learning. The Research Assistant will be based in the Department of Mathematics Education at Loughborough University.

Job Description

Job Grade: Specialist and Supporting Academic Grade 5

Job Purpose

An enthusiastic individual is sought to work with Prof Dr Silke Goebel (University of York), Dr Julia Bahnmueller (Loughborough), Dr Ella James-Brabham (Loughborough), and other research staff. The work will focus on research aiming to enhance our understanding of causal mechanisms that drive mathematics learning during primary school. The Research Assistant will support the development, conduct and reporting of research studies conducted with children, mainly in primary schools, including large-scale intervention studies.

Job Duties

The post holder will:

- Recruit schools and child participants to studies
- Support the development of study and intervention designs.
- Collect data using standardised tests, in-house developed computerised as well as paper & pencil tasks and games.
- Liaise with schools and teachers.
- Collate, enter and check data and prepare for analysis.
- Contribute to the quantitative analysis of data and reporting results of the study in written reports.
- Contribute to impact activities related to the studies and broader grant.
- Adhere to ethics and data security procedures.
- Work in collaboration with project staff across institutions.
- Comply with University Health and Safety Policy.
- Comply with University Rules and Regulations.

Points To Note

The purpose of this job description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the post. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility entailed.

Special Conditions

All staff have a statutory responsibility to take reasonable care of themselves, others and the environment and to prevent harm by their acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Policy & Procedures.

All staff should hold a duty and commitment to observing the University's Equality & Diversity policy and procedures at all times. Duties must be carried out in accordance with relevant Equality & Diversity legislation and University policies/procedures.

Successful completion of probation will be dependent on attendance at the University's mandatory courses which include Respecting Diversity and, where appropriate, Recruitment and Selection.

Organisational Responsibility

Reports to Dr Julia Bahnmueller

Person Specification

Your application will be reviewed against the essential and desirable criteria listed below. Applicants are strongly advised to explicitly state and evidence how they meet each of the essential (and desirable) criteria in their application. Stages of assessment are as follows:

1 – Application; 2 – Test/Assessment Centre/Presentation; 3 – Interview

Essential Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Background in Psychology, Education or a related discipline	1
	Experience conducting quantitative cognitive studies	1,3
	Experience working with children	1,3
Skills and abilities	Knowledge of child cognitive development/developmental psychology	1
	Excellent attention to detail	1, 3
	Working knowledge of statistical software packages (e.g., R, SPSS, JASP)	1
	Excellent organisational skills	1, 3
	Good report writing skills	1
	Able to maintain confidentiality	1
	Self-motivated and able to work within the research team	1,3
	Ability to work to deadlines	1,3
	Ability to work independently and as part of a team	1,3
	A good honours degree in Psychology, Education or a related discipline	1
Other	Interest in and enthusiasm for developmental psychology and numerical cognition	1,3
	Familiarity with the ethical issues involved in working with children	1,3
	Evidence a good working knowledge of equal opportunities and understanding of diversity in the workplace	1,3

Desirable Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience of conducting psychological experiments with children	1,3
	Experience working in primary schools	1,3
Skills and abilities	Knowledge of numerical cognition/mathematical development	1,3
	Knowledge of relevant Health & Safety issues	1,3
	Valid UK driving license	1,3
Qualifications	Postgraduate qualification in Psychology, Education or a related discipline	1

Conditions of Service

The position is FULL TIME and FIXED TERM for 21 months with an end date of 31/07/26. Salary will be on Specialist and Supporting Academic Grade 5 £27,979- £32,982 per annum, subject to an annual pay award, starting salary to be confirmed on offer of appointment. The appointment will be subject to the University's Terms and Conditions of Employment for Operational and Administrative Staff, details of which can be found [here](#).

The University is committed to enabling staff to maintain a healthy work-home balance and has a number of family-friendly policies which can be found [here](#).

The University offers a wide range of employee benefits which can be found [here](#).

We also offer an on-campus nursery with subsidised places, subsidised places at local holiday clubs and a childcare voucher scheme (further details are available at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/childcare-information---page.html>)

In addition, the University is supportive, wherever possible, of flexible working arrangements. We also strive to create a culture that supports equality and celebrates diversity throughout the campus. The University holds a Bronze Athena SWAN award which recognises the importance of support for women at all stages of their academic career. For further information on Athena SWAN see <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/athena-swan/>