

PLACEMENT STUDENT (Centre for Early Mathematics Learning)

Job Ref: REQ250289

School of Science

The Centre for Early Mathematics Learning (CEML) was established following a £10m grant from the ESRC. The Centre is led by Loughborough University in collaboration with academics from 7 other universities across the UK.

CEML aims to transform research in early mathematics education by revealing new understanding of children's early mathematical learning, designing and evaluating educational resources based on the science of mathematical learning, and working with teachers, early years practitioners and families to translate these findings to practice.

Further information about the Centre and it's research can be found at: www.ceml.ac.uk

Job Description

Job Family & Grade: Placement Student x 2 – Grade 3

Job Purpose:

We have two vacancies for motivated undergraduate BSc students to undertake a study placement (2025/2026) within the Centre for Early Mathematics Learning. The placement student would have the opportunity to get involved with the Centre's ongoing research studies as well as with activities related to the running of an international research centre (e.g., marketing, events, research communication).

Research studies that the student may be involved with include:

- Nursery-based studies of preschool children's play-based learning.
- School-based studies investigating the cognitive skills involved in mathematics achievements.
- Online surveys and in-person focus groups with early years practitioners and school teachers.

Job Duties:

Over the course of the placement the student will be involved in a variety of activities to give them a range of experience. The set of activities will be tailored to match the interests of the students. Activities will include:

- Supporting the development of study materials for online or in-person research studies and setting up technical requirements.
- Conducting cognitive behavioural tasks or standardised assessments following training
- Assisting in the recruitment of participants for research studies.
- Assisting in the collection of data both at the University and other locations, under supervision of staff members.
- Entering data into software packages and preparing data for analysis.
- Supporting marketing activities and the communication of the centre's research.

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.

The successful candidate will be required to undergo an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

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 Senior Lecturer.

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

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience of working individually and as part of a team	1,3
Skills and abilities	Ability to work as part of a team and to collaborate with others	1,3
	Excellent organisational and time management skills with the ability to multi-task	1,3
	Ability to work on own initiative with efficiency, accuracy and excellent attention to detail	1,3
	Ability to use statistical programs	1,3
	Excellent oral communication skills	1,3
	Ability to maintain confidentiality	1,3
Training	Willingness to undertake appropriate further training and to adopt new procedures as and when required	1,3
Qualifications	Successful completion of two years of a relevant degree course, including psychology or psychology in education.	1

DESIRABLE

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience in contributing to research studies involving human participants	1,3
	Experience working with children in an employment or voluntary capacity	1,3
	Experience in primary schools.	1,3

Conditions of Service

The post will be offered on a full-time, fixed-term contract for 9 months. The placement student will receive a salary on Grade 3, spine point 7.

The University is committed to enabling staff to maintain a healthy work-home balance and has a number of family-friendly policies which are available at <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/family-leave-policy-and-procedure---page.html>.

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/>

Informal Enquiries

Informal enquiries should be made to Julia Bahn Müller J.Bahnmuller@lboro.ac.uk