



Research Centre: Centre for Evaluation, Quality and Inspection
Post Title Research Assistant, School Evaluation and Assessment
Duration : Fixed Term Contract up to 12 months

Background

The Centre for Evaluation, Quality and Inspection ([EQI](#)) is a multidisciplinary research group based at the [School of Education Studies, DCU](#). It brings together evaluators, policy analysts, and economists and explores the thematic areas of [School Evaluation and Inspection](#) and Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment ([CREA](#)). It also hosts the Irish Evaluation Network ([IEN](#)) – the national database for Evaluators working on the island of Ireland.

In recent years, there has been rapid diversification of the student population in Irish schools, and major questions are being raised as to how schools and teachers can be supported to respond to this rapid cultural and demographic change. Areas that have been highlighted in this context include the training of teachers, curriculum content and teaching methodology, and the impact of inspection, evaluation and quality assurance methodologies. EQI, in partnership with CREA, is seeking to develop a suite of responses in this field based on original research and focused on enhancing the capacity of networks of school communities to address issues of evaluation and quality in a rapidly changing demographic context.

Role

This Research Assistant position is focused on research in and with schools, around the impact of evaluation and assessment on issues of equity and equality, with particular reference to the rapidly diversifying student population. In particular, the project examines the appropriate methodologies for the involvement of parents and students in their schools but, more specifically, in relation to assessment, evaluation and school inspection. Possible approaches to maximising parental and student voice, including the development of school based research in polycentric networks of schools, will also form a part of this role.

Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to his/her Principal Investigator and his/ her immediate supervisor, the duties and responsibilities of the Research Assistant will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Conduct a specified programme of research on the design and implementation of a research project involving fieldwork with schools
- Deliver project outputs and reports as required by the project schedule
- Assist in the development of research proposals
- Attend and present results as required at network meetings, projects meetings and conferences as required
- Liaise with both external and internal stakeholders including academic partners, school communities and key systemic organisations in the education arena
- Engage in dissemination of results at project events, national and international conferences and support the publication of research outputs in high impact international journals

- Carry out administrative work associated with the programme of research as necessary
- Variation of these duties and any other relevant duties as assigned by the Principal Investigator and/ or his/ her immediate supervisor

Experience and Qualifications

Candidates must have a primary degree in education or a related area. The successful candidate should ideally have a postgraduate qualification in education or a cognate discipline. Field work experience with and in schools would be a distinct advantage.

Closing Date: 28th September 2015

Salary in range of €21,580 - €25,330

Informal Inquiries to:

Professor Joe O'Hara, Head of School, School of Education Studies Dublin City University, Dublin 9

E-mail: joe.ohara@dcu.ie

Phone: 353-(0)1-7006009

Please do not send applications to this email address, instead apply as described below.

Application Procedure

In order to apply for this position, you are required to complete an application form. Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies (open Competitions) website at <http://www.dcu.ie/vacancies/current.shtm> and also from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 (0) 1 7005149.

Applications should be submitted by email to hr.applications@dcu.ie or by Fax: +353 (0)1 7005500 or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 1 700 5149; Fax: +353 1 700 5500 Email: hr.applications@dcu.ie

Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line: Job Ref #175 Research Assistant, School Evaluation and Assessment

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