



## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Assistant Professor in Education  
Inclusive and Special Education  
School of Inclusive and Special Education  
Permanent Contract  
DCU Institute of Education**

### **DCU Overview**

Dublin City University (DCU) is a leading innovative European University. It is proud to be one of the world's leading Young Universities and is among the world's top 2% globally. DCU is known as Ireland's University of Impact, with a mission to 'transform lives and societies' and focuses on addressing global challenges in collaboration with key national and international partners and stakeholders.

DCU has over 20,000 students in five faculties spread across three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra area of North Dublin. Thanks to its innovative approach to teaching and learning, the University offers a 'transformative student experience' that helps to develop highly sought-after graduates. DCU is currently No. 1 in Ireland for Graduate Employment Rate, and for graduate income (CSO).

DCU is a research-intensive University and is home to a number of SFI-funded Research Centres. The University participates in a range of European and international research partnerships. DCU is also the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

As a 'People First' institution, DCU is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - a University that helps staff and students to thrive. The University is a leader in terms of its work to increase access to education, and is placed in the world's Top 10 for reducing inequalities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

### **DCU Institute of Education**

The DCU Institute of Education is the newest faculty of Dublin City University. It is based in a €70 million purpose built facility on the DCU St Patrick's Campus in Drumcondra in Dublin. Established in 2016 as Ireland's first University faculty of Education, it has a staff of more than 150 full-time academics and a student body in excess of 4,000. The Institute brings together students of education across all sectors from early childhood, to primary and post-primary, and further and higher education. As well as providing a range of undergraduate programmes in education, the Institute offers a rich menu of taught and research-based post-graduate programmes, at doctoral, masters, diploma and certificate levels. As a centre of expertise and excellence in teacher education and education more generally, the Institute hosts a range of research centres in key areas of priority and has an ambitious and growing programme of research. With internationally-recognised experts in education policy, inclusive and special education, curriculum and pedagogy, assessment, literacy, evaluation and teacher education, the Institute provides a dynamic learning and working environment. Staff can

expect to encounter opportunities for multi-disciplinary work, not just in the Institute, but across the University. As one of the world's leading young Universities, DCU has established its fifth and newest faculty out of a conviction that studies and research in education and the preparation and support of teachers are central to the transformation of lives and communities. Dedicated to academic excellence and innovation, the DCU Institute of Education is confident its students and staff, and its graduates can flourish and lead in the challenging and complex contexts of 21st century education.

### **School of Inclusive and Special Education**

The School of Inclusive and Special Education is one of six schools within DCU Institute of Education. It is the first such school in an Irish university. It has a critical mass of expertise in areas of inclusive education and special education and is dedicated to supporting the rights of all children and young people to a high-quality education and to learning for all. It has a strong research focus with staff and research students both full and part-time creating a vibrant community of inquiry.

The School provides a full range of continuing professional development programmes for teachers working in inclusive and special education roles, including a Graduate Diploma in Inclusive Education, Learning Support and Special Education, Masters in Special Educational Needs, Masters in Specific Learning Disabilities (Dyslexia), Graduate Certificate and Master of Education in the Education of Pupils on the Autism Spectrum and an online Professional Diploma in Inclusive and Special Education. It also contributes to the University's initial teacher education programmes and taught doctorate programme.

### **Assistant Professor in Inclusive and Special Education**

The School of Inclusive and Special Education is seeking to recruit an Assistant Professor with particular expertise in dyslexia and literacy education to work collaboratively with members of the School and the Institute of Education. They will make a substantial contribution to the design, development, and management of present and future initiatives addressing the needs of learners with additional/special educational needs. Continuing the School's historic engagement in the development of policy in Ireland in the area of inclusive and special education, the appointees will be expected to participate in research and policy networks and engage with key system stakeholders.

### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

**The post will have a range of responsibilities including but not limited to the following:**

#### **Teaching and Learning**

The successful candidate will be required to contribute significantly to course development, teaching, assessment and administration across a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes both on campus and online. Part of this work will include practicum visits and supporting evaluative reports. Specifically, the candidate will have expertise in literacy/dyslexia and be expected to contribute to the Masters in Specific Learning Difficulties (Dyslexia) and other School and faculty programmes in this area.

They will also be expected to contribute to the wider work of the DCU Institute of Education, particularly in the provision of continuing professional development in inclusive and special education, and other areas of education as appropriate.

#### **Research and Scholarship**

The successful candidate will be committed to high-quality impactful research and publication in the field of inclusive and special education on an individual and a collaborative basis. They will contribute to the scholarship and intellectual life of the University by conducting and publishing research which will enhance its reputation as a research-led teaching institution and which will make a significant

contribution to the development of the DCU Institute of Education's research reputation. Application for competitive grants, as collaborators or as principal investigators will be expected.

### **Service and Contribution to University and Society**

The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the overall strategy of Dublin City University through participation in University-wide initiatives. Academics are expected to participate in school and university meetings, meetings related to programmes and to represent the School in marketing and other public events and in the recruitment of students.

The appointee will also be expected to be active in the organisation of seminars and conferences and in developing relationships with stakeholders across the University and in the education sector more generally.

### **Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Essential**

- Primary degree (NFQ Level 8) in a relevant area and a postgraduate qualification in areas related to Inclusive and Special Education
- Three years' relevant experience in an educational setting, ideally in teacher education or allied field.
- Expertise in dyslexia and literacy education
- Knowledge of the Irish education system and policy relevant to inclusive and special education.

#### **The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications and experience**

- A Doctoral qualification related to Inclusive and Special Education
- An emerging or established track record of publications in peer-reviewed journals.
- Previous experience of in-career development work with teachers of students with special educational needs,
- Experience of working with learners with additional/special educational needs
- Strong social and team-work skills, excellent administrative and organisation skills,
- An established profile in the ISE sector

The position is subject to the individual being Garda Vetted.

**Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to promoting gender equality reflected in its attainment of the Athena SWAN Bronze Award. Information on a range of university policies aimed at creating a supportive and flexible work environment are available at [www4.dcu.ie/policies/policy-starter-packs.shtml](http://www4.dcu.ie/policies/policy-starter-packs.shtml).**