



## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Assistant Professor in Science Education (Primary)**  
**School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies**  
**DCU Institute of Education**  
**11 Month Fixed Term Contract**

### **Dublin City University**

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 130 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, digital learning 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.

Committed 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 education in the 21st century.

### **Overview of the department**

The School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies is one of six schools within the DCU Institute of Education. The school contributes to a range of high-quality undergraduate and postgraduate programmes across the education landscape and has a strong research focus in the disciplines of STEM Education, History and Geography Education, Education for Sustainability, Global Citizenship Education, and Human Rights and Citizenship Education. Through its teaching and research, the school is centrally engaged in transforming the Irish education system and is a significant contributor to knowledge creation and policy development in the field of education.

We are now seeking to appoint an Assistant Professor in Science Education, from September 2023, who can support and enhance our dynamic team.

### **Role Profile**

The School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies is seeking to recruit an Assistant Professor in Science Education. The successful candidates will have a strong academic background in the area of science education, with expertise in current innovative pedagogies in science at primary level. A significant element of the role will involve engagement in primary teacher education programmes as part of the Science Education (Primary) team. Familiarity with recent and emerging trends in Irish primary education and in particular, STEM education will be important.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The duties and responsibilities of the position include, but are not restricted to, the following:

#### **Teaching and Learning**

The candidate will be required to contribute significantly to the development, teaching, assessment and administration of existing undergraduate and postgraduate programmes with a particular focus on science in primary education. This teaching will include module delivery and assessment. The candidate will be expected to model and develop innovative practices in science education and contribute to developments in this area to support the priorities of the Institute of Education. In addition, they may be expected to supervise undergraduate theses, contribute to tutorials and to the wider teaching of the Institute as required by the Head of School. The candidate is expected to engage in school placement including its attendant duties of supporting and evaluating students on school visits and writing reports.

### **Research and Scholarship**

The DCU Institute of Education is a centre of excellence in educational research and as such the candidate will be expected to be research-active in their specialist field in science education and/or in the general field of teacher education; and to contribute to, develop and support research initiatives within the school and the wider faculty. They will contribute to the scholarship and intellectual life of the University, which will enhance its reputation as a research-led teaching institution and make a significant contribution to the development of the DCU Institute of Education's research agenda.

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

The candidate will undertake administrative functions related to the activities of the School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies. These activities defined by the Head of School may include participating in School meetings, engaging in meetings related to programmes, representing the School in marketing and recruitment of students, developing relationships with stakeholders, participating in Open Days, organisation of conferences and seminars etc.

### **Qualifications and Experience**

- Postgraduate qualification (NFQ Level 8), preferably at Doctoral level, in areas related to science education
- A strong academic background in the area of science education, with expertise in current innovative pedagogies in science
- A minimum of three years' experience as a classroom teacher. Ideally this should be in a primary setting, but experience in early years and/or post-primary education can be considered knowledge of the school system in Ireland
- Experience in initial teacher education
- Research experience relevant to the position with an emerging or established record of publications

- Strong communication skills
- Capacity to collaborate and work closely with others

*\*The position is subject to the candidate being Garda Vetted.*