

Q-STEP SUMMER INTERNSHIPS 2021

Department for Education – Geographical and socio-economic factors that influence parents use, views and experiences of childcare and early years provision in England

Organisation and Team

Department for Education: Early Years and Deprivation Analysis and Research Unit (EYDARU)

Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD

Selection Method

Written CV & cover letter followed by an Interview

Project Outline

The Early Years and Deprivation Analysis and Research Unit (EYDARU) publish a range of research reports and official statistics on childcare and education usage, quality and outcomes for children aged 0-5. EYDARU also conduct secondary analysis of these sources to build a broad and robust evidence base.

This project will involve secondary data analysis of the Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents data to investigate how responses differ for certain subgroups for instance those living in the most and least deprived areas. The analysis could be completed using SQL, R or SPSS, plus Excel. This project will add detail and depth to the published analysis to highlight how parents' experiences may differ and therefore what differences in the population should be considered when developing/implementing policy. There will be scope to broaden the remit or have an increased focus on an area of interest or depending on identified gaps in the evidence base, including identifying any changes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Application Criteria

Essential:

- Excel;
- written and verbal communication;
- teamwork

Desirable:

- Knowledge of statistical techniques;
- at least one of R, SPSS and SQL.

Key Words

Childcare, Education, early years, parents, SPSS, R, SQL, secondary analysis, quantitative

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Practical Considerations

Remote working or from any DfE office across England.

8 week internship

Support and Training

EYDARU is a multi-disciplinary team that can offer professional support from a range of perspectives (economists, statisticians and researchers). The Department for Education offers a range of internal training, including in R, Excel, communication skills and Government-specific learning, to which the successful candidate will have access.

Supporting Information

The data for this project is generated from the Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents, the report and supporting data tables are published at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-and-early-years-survey-of-parents-2019>

Expenses will be paid for any travel, subsistence and training during the placement in line with Department for Education policies.

Issues of Data Confidentiality / IPR

The successful candidate will need to return required documents promptly in order to pass Civil Service security clearance in advance of their start date, so that they can access the relevant data.