

Q-STEP SUMMER INTERNSHIPS 2021

DfE - Analysis, reporting and dissemination of findings from the Study of Early Education and Development (SEED)

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 conducts secondary analysis of these sources to build a broad and robust evidence base.

This project will involve analysis, reporting, and the dissemination of findings from the Study of Early Education and Development (SEED), specifically relating to our second SEED COVID-19 follow-up survey. The successful applicant will be analysing a range of topics that include (but are not limited to) pupil emotional health, family experiences of lockdown, food security, and school attendance. SEED is a longitudinal study that has tracked the factors which influence educational and child development outcomes for 6,000 children. SEED is a flagship study for the Department, so this is a great opportunity to gain experience in working in a high-profile area while developing your knowledge of complex survey datasets and gaining exposure to analysis within the Civil Service. The analysis will be completed using a mixture of SPSS and Excel, though training on SPSS can be provided, if needed.

Application Criteria

Essential:

- Data-set manipulation skills
- Data analysis skills and experience with quantitative datasets
- Microsoft Office skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to summarise and present complex data and analysis

Desirable:

- Experience of using/ working with SPSS.
- Experience of working with survey datasets.

Key Words

Early Years, Childcare, Policy, COVID-19, Home Learning Environment, Disadvantage, Education.

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Practical Considerations

We are looking for a full-time placement student but would be open to more flexible working hours. Please state in the application whether you would be able to take up a full-time position.

8 week internship.

Support and Training

The Line Manager will provide some initial training for the placement student including an introduction to the data source, introduction to the Department and Civil Service, and analytical software on the job training (if required). Ongoing support for the project will be provided by the Line Manager and the wider team. The placement student will be working directly with the Civil Service Analytical professions but will also gain valuable experience of the policy interface.

Issues of Data Confidentiality / IPR

The successful student will be working with survey datasets related to the SEED project. They will be working with and presenting unpublished findings (with the eventual aim of being published) so there will be sensitivities to consider throughout this project. The Line Manager will provide guidance and support on working with official materials.