Data Fellowship Project 2023

Greater Manchester Combined Authority – School Readiness and the Workforce Competency Framework

Organisation and Team

School Readiness Programme,

Public Service Reform Research Sub-team,

GMCA

Selection Method

Apply with a CV and cover letter.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview.

Application Criteria

Essential:

- Knowledge and use of Microsoft applications (e.g., Excel, PowerPoint)
- Understanding of statistics, analysis, and use of data
- Excellent interpersonal / communication skills with attention to detail

Desirable:

- Some knowledge of or interest in the early years sector or child development
- An understanding of data from official and unofficial sources
- Experience in the use of Tableau for data analysis and presentation

Project Outline

Improving Early Years (EY) outcomes and school readiness levels is a priority in the Greater Manchester (GM) Strategy, the GM Children's Health and Wellbeing Framework, Population Health plan and the GM Children's Plan. Ensuring the EY workforce has the right skills and competencies is key to helping children improve their outcomes and achieve their potential.

The EY Workforce Competency Framework (WCF) was developed to enable EY practitioners to self-assess their skills, knowledge, abilities, and characteristics around several competency statements relating to EY practice. The WCF allows the EY workforce to identify their strengths and areas for further professional development.

While a member of our team, you will provide support in the evaluation of the WCF, after it has been rolled out for the very first time in 2 of the GM localities. You will analyse practitioners' responses to identify various themes, including:

1. Barriers to engagement with the framework
2. Level of engagement with each component of the WCF, based on profession, years in the sector, qualification level, and locality
3. Practitioners' confidence levels across GM

During your internship with us you will gain experience in data collection, analysis, and reporting using Excel, Tableau and Power Point. There will also be the opportunity for you to explore the data and create new lines of inquiry, as well as to present your work to the School Readiness Programme team.

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Practical Considerations

This is an 8-week internship and provides the flexibility of a hybrid format. To make the most of the experience, we hope you will be able to work from our city-centre office for at least some of the week (subject to space), but there is also the option to work from home.

Supporting Information

Greater Manchester is home to 2.8 million people, with an economy bigger than that of Wales or Northern Ireland.

The GMCA is made up of the ten Greater Manchester councils and the Mayor, who work with local services, businesses, communities, and other partners to improve the city-region. It is our ambition to make GM one of the best places in the world to grow up, get on, and grow old.

More information about early years and the GM School Readiness Programme can he found here: https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/children-and-young-people/every-child-starts-school-ready-to-learn/

Support and Training

You will be part of the children and young people programme areas within the research team at GMCA. Although, on the day-to-day basis you will be directly supported by a lead analyst and a principal researcher, you will be part of a dynamic team of over 40 data-minded people working across a variety of policy areas and with expertise in a wide range of research methods and tools.

As part of our team, you will have the opportunity to engage with different colleagues and sub-teams of the research team, as well as other areas across GMCA. You will gain insights into working in data analytics, public policy, and local government, all during the same fellowship.

There is the possibility of receiving internal training to further develop your technical skills, depending on availability.

MANCHESTER 1824
The University of Manchester

q-step@manchester.ac.uk

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Funded by the Nuffield Foundation, ESRC and HEFCE
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