

Vacancy ref: 5635

School of Education
JOB DESCRIPTION

Title:	Research Fellow – Lab2School research project
Grade:	Grade 7
Salary:	£39,560 - £46,970 per annum
Hours:	Full-time
Contract Length:	Fixed-term (18 months)
Reporting to:	Dr Emma Sumner
Location:	Education Building, although staff may be asked to work in any location within the University.
Job Summary:	The appointed person will join the Lab2School project team. The post holder will be responsible for recruiting children with developmental coordination disorder (DCD/dyspraxia) to take part in the planned study, data collection, scoring and analysis. The post holder will be expected to manage timelines and organise monthly research meetings. It is expected that the work will be disseminated via delivery of conference presentations, publication in scientific journals and other platforms, including feeding back to the wider EU project team. This post is subject to contract.

DUTIES:

Research

- Develop research objectives, projects and proposals and conduct individual or collaborative research projects.
- Contribute to the development of new models, techniques and methods.
- Apply knowledge in a way which develops new intellectual understanding.
- Assist with the planning, coordination and implementation of research projects. Manage research resources and budgets and ensure effective use is made of them.
- Analyse and interpret data, prepare and submit papers for presentation at regional, national or international conferences and for publication in peer review journals.
- Give presentations and/or contribute to presentations at national and/or international conferences or exhibit work in other appropriate events.
- Ensure that research is conducted to appropriate ethical and governance standards as defined by the University.

- Use due diligence in the management, protection and exploitation of intellectual property owned by the University and/or the external commercial partner.
- Identify potential sources of funding and contribute to the process of securing funds.
- Liaise with the relevant external research community via seminars and conferences.
- Contribute to the planning and implementation of commercial and consultancy activities.
- Maintain contact with (including membership of) appropriate professional bodies
- Engage with and participate in the University's appraisal process.
- LJMU are committed to adhering to the Principles set out in the Researcher Development Concordat; in line with this all fixed-term researchers will be supported to complete 10 days professional development activities per year (pro-rata).

Teaching and Learning

- Be involved in the assessment of student knowledge and supervision of projects
- Assist in the development of student research skills

Leadership and Management

- Coach and support more junior colleagues in developing their research techniques.
- May supervise the work of others in research teams or projects.

Citizenship

- Contribute to a supportive working environment and develop productive working relationships with other team members.
- Attend and contribute to staff meetings.
- Contribute to wider school/university activities e.g. open days, student welcome, graduation and clearing events.
- Build internal contacts and seek external contacts to assist in the delivery of research, take part in engagement activity.
- Act as an ambassador for the University in all interactions with current and prospective staff and students, visitors to the University, external partners, media and general public.
- Promote the University's values of an inclusive and diverse community.

Post Specific Duties:

- Lead on participant recruitment and data collection
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- Conduct analyses and lead on write up on outputs
- Ensure the project work is completed within the external funder's deadline.

- Any other duties commensurate with the grade as deemed necessary by the Director of the School of Education.

- A commitment to LJMU's values and regulations and Diversity and Inclusion Policy.

- Commitment to adhere to and promote the ethos of Respect Always as set out in the Respect Always Charter.

- Liverpool John Moores University recognises and is aware of its Social, Economic and Environmental responsibilities. The post holder is required to minimise the environmental impact in the performance of the role, contribute to (and supervise if applicable) the implementation of environmental improvement measures and actively contribute to the delivery of LJMU's Environmental Management, Energy Management and Sustainability Policy Statement, and the Climate and Sustainability Plan.

- The post-holder's mandatory Health and Safety responsibilities, which have been agreed by the University's Executive Leadership Team, are contained in Section 2 of the University's Safety Management Code of Practice (MCP1) Organisation for the Implementation of the Health and Safety Policy. The post-holder's mandatory Environmental Management responsibilities are contained in Section 2 of the University's Environmental Management Code of Practice (ECP1) Organisation for the Implementation of the Environmental Management and Sustainability Policy.

November 2026

Person Specification

The person specification describes the skills, experience, knowledge and aptitude required to perform the duties of this post effectively. The criteria order listed should not be taken to imply their relative importance. Both paid and unpaid experience may be relevant.

Essential Factors	**Evidence**
A doctorate in psychology, education, or related field (or close to completion)	A
Experience of conducting research with school-aged children	A, I
Knowledge and/or experience of administering standardised assessments (i.e., cognitive, literacy, or motor assessments)	A, I
Advanced statistical skills for quantitative analysis	A, I
Proven ability to conduct high-quality research which is reflected in an emergent publications record	A, I
Excellent communication skills (oral and written)	A, I
Demonstrable experience and ability to work effectively both individually and collaboratively as part of a research team	A, I
Proven ability of excellent organisational skills	A, I
Ability to communicate findings to non-academic audiences via different media	A, I
Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance at the appropriate level	A, I

Desirable Factors	**Evidence**
Experience of working with children with special educational needs	A, I
Knowledge of the research literature around development coordination disorder (DCD, dyspraxia), literacy, and/or inclusion	A, I
Knowledge and experience of qualitative methods (e.g., interviews)	A, I
Willingness to learn how to use new tools for research purposes (digital writing tablets, keystroke logging)	A, I
Experience of developing and maintaining relationships with schools	A, I

A = Application I = Interview P = Presentation T = Test C = Certificate

BENEFITS OF WORKING FOR US

Financial benefits: Competitive salaries based on a low contractual 35 hour working week.

7.1% employer pension contributions for non-academic staff enrolled in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). This is a temporary reduction from the previous rate of 17.5%, effective from April 2026, following the Fund's triennial review. The reduction reflects the Fund's current surplus and improved financial position. This does not affect your pension benefits, which are determined by LGPS scheme rules rather than the level of employer contributions.

28.68% employer contribution to pensions for teaching staff enrolled into the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS).

Work life balance: Excellent annual leave provision.

30 days for support staff and 35 days for staff and senior managers grade 8 and above.

8 UK bank holidays and up to 5 University closure days between Christmas and New Year.

Family friendly policies and a range of benefits to support including job-shares, flexible working hours and part-time roles where possible.

Health and wellbeing: Regular wellbeing support initiatives throughout the year.

Access to a trained counsellor via Employee Assistance Programme (EAP).

Plus a programme of activities and range of support and resources to help look after your mental and physical wellbeing.

Career Benefits: Continuous development opportunities to enhance your knowledge and meet your career ambitions, including LinkedIn Learning.

Making a difference: LJMU Climate Action - be at the forefront of initiatives to tackle climate change.

Share experiences and challenge unfair practices with our Diversity and Inclusion Staff Networks.

Opportunity to volunteer at graduation ceremonies, clearing and open days.

Discounts and other benefits: A reward and benefits platform, giving savings on day-to-day purchases across a range of retail outlets.

Interest free loans repayable across twelve monthly instalments, including loans for annual travel season tickets and cycle to work scheme.

Massively discounted gym and fitness classes at the **University Sport Building.**