



## Candidate Information

<b>Position:</b>	Research Fellow - Developing Belief and Religious Cognition
<b>School/Department:</b>	School of Psychology
<b>Reference:</b>	21/108642
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Monday 15 March 2021
<b>Salary:</b>	£33,797 per annum.
<b>Anticipated Interview Date:</b>	Monday 29 March, 2021
<b>Duration:</b>	18 month fixed-term contract or until 31 October 2022 (whichever is soonest).

### JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the research project/team assisting in the planning and delivery of the research activity so that the overall research objectives of The John Templeton Foundation funded project, titled "Developing Belief: The Development and Diversity of Religious Cognition and Behaviour in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland" are met.

### MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Develop and plan an area of personal research and expertise, under the supervision of the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators within the research project Developing Belief: The Development and Diversity of Religious Cognition and Behaviour in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.
2. Design, develop and refine experimental apparatus, field research or experiments in order to obtain reliable data.
3. Carry out analyses, critical evaluations, and interpretations using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to area of research.
4. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
5. Prepare, often in consultation with supervisor, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
6. Assist grant holder in the preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies if required.
7. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project to ensure that project is completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control, and risk assessment of research activities.
8. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.

### Planning and Organising:

1. Plan for specific aspects of research programmes.
2. Plan for the use of research resources, laboratories and workshops where appropriate.
3. Plan own day-to day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.
4. Plan up to a year in advance to meet deadlines for journal publications and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences.
5. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group over work progress.

### Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students who may be assisting with research.

### Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise on a regular basis with colleagues and students.
2. Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.

3. Join external networks to share information and ideas.
4. Liaise with the external partners on the project.

**ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:**

1. Have or about to obtain a PhD in Psychology or a relevant area such as Cognitive or Behavioural Science.
2. Minimum of three years relevant research experience.
3. Demonstrable experience of using quantitative research methodologies and techniques relevant to the research project, including ONE or more of the following:
  - Proven expertise in conducting reliable cross-cultural studies
  - Demonstrable expertise in longitudinal design and analysis with parents and children
  - Experience in designing and running experimental studies with children
  - Experience with mixed-method studies with families, including coding naturalistic conversations.
4. Proven experience of using statistical packages to analyse, interpret and present on quantitative data.
5. Strong level of analytical capability.
6. Enthusiasm for working with children.
7. Enthusiasm for working as part of an international collaborative research network.
8. Proven ability to communicate with and relate to others at all levels, both internally and externally.
9. Proven ability to work independently with a high level of self-motivation, whilst also working in a wider team.
10. Demonstrable intellectual ability.

**DESIRABLE CRITERIA:**

1. Extensive breadth and depth of experience of using SPSS, R and/or Mplus.
2. Proven experience of using online experimental software, e.g. Qualtrics, PsychoPy, OpenSesame.
3. Track record of high quality published empirical journal articles commensurate with stage of career.
4. Experience in using graphic design software to produce stimuli.