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| **Job Title** |
| **Job Title:** | Research Associate – Digital inclusion |
| **Reference No:** |  |
| **Reports to:** | Professor Yitka Graham |
| **Grade:** | E |
| **Working Hours:** | 1 day per week (fixed term contract) |
| **Faculty/Service:** | Health Sciences and Wellbeing |
| **Location:** | Helen McArdle Nursing and Care Research Institute |
| **Main Purpose of Role:** | The postholder will support the development and delivery of an externally funded evaluation of the UKSPF Digital Inclusion and Community Support Offer project across Sunderland, working collaboratively with Sunderland City Council, the third sector and the public. The postholder will lead on a mixed methods analysis, including social return on investment, writing up the findings for a range of audiences, developing an impact strategy and robust dissemination plan. |
| **Key Responsibilities and Accountabilities:** | **Faculty Specific:*** Leading on the day to day project management to ensure completion to time and target
* Carrying out data collection, consenting participants and taking field notes
* Supporting data analysis of transcribed data
* Calculating social return on investment
* Lead on the project write up for publication and across a wide range of audiences
* Development of an impact strategy and dissemination plan

**Generic to all Research Associate roles:*** Develop and implement a personal research plan and where appropriate related reach-out plan.
* Conduct individual and collaborative research and assist with related reach-out projects.
* Assist with the dissemination of research findings and reach-out activities through publication, presentation or exhibition.
* Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism.
* Translate knowledge of advances in the subject area or professional practice into research activity.
* Assist in the development of student research skills.
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| **Special Circumstances:** |  |

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| **Part 2A: Essential and DesirableCriteria** |
|  | **Essential****Qualifications and Professional Memberships:** |
| * Educated to postgraduate degree level in a relevant discipline
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| **Knowledge and Experience:** |
| * Demonstrable experience of working with UK-based community interventions to improve health and wellbeing, addressing the wider determinants of health
* Evidence of leading mixed methods research and evaluation projects, delivering to time and target
* Demonstrable experience of collaborative working with local authorities, the third sector and public
* Experience of assessing social return on investment using established software programmes in this area
* Strong track record of peer-reviewed publications
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| **Desirable*** Experience of developing impact strategies
* Developing and carrying out a robust dissemination plan
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| **Knowledge and Experience:** |
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| **Part 2B: Key Competencies** |
| **Competencies are assessed at the interview/selection testing stage** | **Analysis & Research*** Gathers data rigorously and conducts robust analysis, questioning assumptions and existing knowledge
* Develops hypotheses and concepts to explain data, events and phenomena
* Reports findings to wider community and is able to withstand challenge by relying on evidence gathered and processes used for analysis
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|  | **Communication****Oral Communication*** Summarises and interprets complex, conceptual and special matters to aid others' understanding and aimed at their needs
* Uses appropriate styles and arguments to influence and negotiate satisfactory outcomes
* Monitors understanding of others, develops approach and takes corrective action if require

**Written Communication*** Conveys information of a complex, conceptual and specialist nature using a range of styles and media selected to meet the needs of others
* Presents complex information in formats appropriate to non-specialists without comprising meaning
* Monitors the reactions of others and takes appropriate steps to remedy any miscommunications
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| **Decision Making Independent Decisions*** Considers wider impact of decisions, assesses possible outcomes and their likelihood
* Uses judgement to make decisions with limited or ambiguous data and takes account of multiple factors
* Distinguishes between the need to make a decision, when to defer and when not to take a decision

**Collaborative Decisions*** Helps others to explore options that initially appear to be inappropriate or unfeasible and recognise when a decision is or is not needed
* Enables others to contribute to decisions
* Ensures that options are weighed, outcomes identified, and chances of success considered
* Challenges decisions, appropriately to ensure consideration and processes are robust

**Provision of Advice*** Anticipates and highlights issues that need to be taken into account
* Outlines possible impacting factors, assessing their degree of influence on the choice of options
* Ensures previous learning is included
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| **Initiative & Problem Solving*** Analyses problems to identify their cause
* Takes action to prevent recurrence of problems
* Considers possible solutions to identify those which offer wider benefits
* Obtains evidence to support intuition
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| **Service Delivery*** Has accurate and up to date knowledge of services available in own and related areas of work
* Correctly refers customers elsewhere
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|  | * Ensures that the experience of each customer is positive and satisfactory
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| **Teamwork & Motivation*** Helps to clarify priorities and ensure they are understood by all
* Supports colleagues in need of extra help
* Acknowledges the achievement of colleagues
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| **Date Completed:** | 10/11/2023 |