

Information on Postgraduate Research Scholarship - Ref: VCS-FEHHS-03-25			
Faculty:	Education, Health and Human Sciences	Department:	Human Sciences
Lead Supervisor:	Sajid Humayun		
Project Title:	The scale and effectiveness of parenting interventions delivered in children’s social care in the UK: impact, experience of families and barriers to evaluation.		
Project Description:	<p>Please note, this is a PhD Scholarship co-funded by Foundations, the National What Works Centre for Children and Families and the biggest funder of evaluation research in early interventions services and children’s social care.</p> <p>Children and young people (CYP) on Child in Need (CiN) plans or Child Protection (CP) orders are amongst the most vulnerable in the country and from families with high levels of need. Children on CiN plans and CP orders constitute a large proportion of children and families seen by children’s social care services and are at high risk for out of home placements, thereby representing a very high cost to the public purse.</p> <p>However, little research has been conducted on what services are offered to these CYP and their families, particularly when risks have been identified in parenting and domestic violence. Evidence-based parenting interventions have become increasingly widespread in the last twenty years but are primarily used in Early Help and broader children’s services, and it is not clear the extent to which they are offered to families when there is a CiN or CP plan in place.</p> <p>This project aims to investigate whether parenting interventions are offered and whether they are effective in this population of CYP and their families. The project is likely to include conducting systematic reviews, secondary data analysis of social care data and obtaining access and analysing data held by organisations delivering parenting interventions. The scholar will also identify and interview key stakeholders in children’s services and children’s social care.</p>		
Duration:	3 years, Full-Time Study, 6 years, Part-Time Study		
Bursary available (subject to satisfactory performance): From 01 October for the 2025-26 academic year this amount will be Year 1: (FT) £20,780 plus £2,000 London Weighting (where applicable) or pro-rata (PT) Year 2: In line with UKRI rate Year 3: In line with UKRI rate			

In addition, the successful candidate will receive a contribution to tuition fees equivalent to the university's Home-student rate, currently £5,006 or pro-rata (PT), for the duration of their scholarship. International applicants will need to pay the remainder tuition fee for the duration of their scholarship.

This fee is subject to an annual increase.

Person Specification of Essential (E) or Desirable (D) requirements:

Criteria:	E or D
-----------	--------

Education and Training:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an undergraduate (honours) degree with minimum 2:1 (or equivalent), or a Master's degree with minimum 60% overall (or equivalent) in a relevant discipline. 	E
---	----------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For those whose first language is not English and/or if from a country where English is not the majority spoken language (as recognised by the UKBA), a language proficiency score of at least IELTS 6.5 (in all elements of the test) or an equivalent UK VISA and Immigration secure English Language Test is required, if your programme falls within the faculty of Engineering and Science a language proficiency score of at least IELTS 6.5 overall with a minimum of 6.0 in all elements of the test or an equivalent UK VISA and Immigration secure English Language Test is required. Unless the degree above was taught in English and obtained in a majority English speaking country, e.g. UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, etc, as recognised by the UKBA. 	E
---	----------

Experience & Skills:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous experience of undertaking research (e.g., through an undergraduate or taught Master's dissertation) 	E
--	----------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A fair grounding of research methods and research design with experience of using both quantitative and qualitative research methods 	E
--	----------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong communication skills (e.g., written, verbal, data visualisation, etc.) 	E
---	----------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interest in, or evidenced commitment to, transparency and rigor in research (i.e., open scholarship, open data/materials, preregistration, etc.) 	E
---	----------

Personal Attributes:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands the fundamental differences between a taught degree and a research degree in terms of approach and personal discipline/motivation 	E
---	----------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to, under guidance, complete independent work successfully 	E
---	----------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interest in, or commitment to, challenging inequalities and promoting JEDI (justice, equality, diversity and inclusion) developments, with experience negotiating these sensitively and compassionately 	E
--	----------

Other Requirements:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This scholarship may require Academic Technology Approval Scheme approval for the successful candidate if from outside of the EU/EEA 	E
--	----------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scholarship must commence before the end of February 2026 	E
--	----------

Closing date for applications:	30 October 2025
---------------------------------------	------------------------

For further information contact:	Sajid Humayun s.humayun@greenwich.ac.uk
---	---

Making an application:

Please read this information before making an application. Information on the application process is available at: <https://www.gre.ac.uk/research/study/apply/application-process>. Applications need to be made online via this link. **No other form of application will be considered.** Please ensure that you select 'MPhil/PhD Human Sciences' from the list to ensure prompt processing of applications.

All applications **must include** the following information. **Applications not containing these documents will not be considered:**

- **VC Scholarship Reference Number (Ref)**– included in the personal statement section
- **Personal Statement*** - outlining your motivation for applying for this PhD, and your previous research experience (e.g., as a research assistant or completing a dissertation).
- **Academic qualification certificates/transcripts***
- **IELTS/English Language certificate if you are an international applicant or if English is not your first language or you are from a country where English is not the majority spoken language as defined by the UK Border Agency ***
- **Your complete CV***
- **Two reference letters (one ideally from a dissertation supervisor) ***
- **Research Proposal*** Please provide a brief research proposal (maximum 1500 words) outlining how you would develop this research. Please refer to the Research Proposal structure: https://docs.gre.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/270049/research-proposal-template.pdf
- Please ensure that you submit to the **MPhil/PhD Human Sciences** programme.

**Upload to the qualification section of the application form. Attachments must be in PDF format.*
You will need to submit this as 1 single PDF, to be uploaded as attachment.

Before submitting your application, you are encouraged to liaise with the Lead Supervisor on the details above.