

2020 Psychology Winter Research Project Description

Project title:	Understanding the relationship between early childhood educator's language use, children's theory of mind, and oral language development in the kindergarten setting
Positions available:	1
Project duration:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx. 25hours per week • 3-4 weeks
Description:	<p>Theory of mind is the ability to understand mental states such as desires, beliefs and emotions. This project investigates the effect of early childhood educator language use on child theory of mind development. An understanding of how social knowledge is effectively transferred from educators to children is important for educator training, the design of evidenced informed interventions, and policy development in the early childhood sector.</p> <p>Research Questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Does the mental state language input of early childhood educators predict children's theory of mind? (2) Is the relationship between early childhood educators' mental state language use and children's theory of mind mediated by child language capacity? <p>It is anticipated that scholars will support with task preparation, literature searches and behavioural coding from videos.</p>
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	Scholars will gain experience in research design, analytic techniques in developmental and strategic literature search techniques.
Suitable for:	This project is open to applications from 2 nd – 4 th year students enrolled within the School of Psychology, UQ.
Primary Supervisor:	Aisling Mulvihill
Further info:	Should potential applicants have questions about the scholarship, they are welcome to contact Aisling Mulvihill via email (a.mulvihill@uq.edu.au) prior to submitting an application.