**UQ Winter Research Project Description**

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| **Project title:** | **Developing Research Skills in Sport and Physical Activity for Children with Disabilities** |
| **Hours of engagement & delivery mode** | 4 weeks: Flexible hybrid arrangement. Expect to work M-F, however a flexible schedule can be arranged depending on your needs. |
| **Description:** | The winter scholar will contribute to multiple research projects focused on sports and physical activity for children with disabilities. Some of these projects include:  **More than a Seat at the Table: Fostering Meaningful Consumer Involvement in Priority-Setting Research**  Consumer involvement in priority-setting research ensures that people with lived experience of disability shape research decisions alongside the research team. However, little guidance exists on how to facilitate meaningful involvement at each stage of the process. This study evaluates consumer participation in a recent priority-setting project about sport participation for people with lived experience of childhood-onset disability using focus groups and surveys.  *The scholar will assist in synthesising survey results and organising, conducting, and transcribing focus groups or interviews under the guidance of PhD candidate Afra Islam.*  **Physical Literacy Outcomes of Swimming and Water Safety Interventions for Children with Disabilities**  Swimming is a widely accessible physical activity, yet the impact of structured swimming and water safety programs on physical literacy for children with disabilities remains unclear. This systematic review will assess current evidence on these programs, considering both health practitioner-led and coach-led interventions.  *The scholar will support evidence synthesis and quality assessments under the guidance of PhD candidate Karen Graham.*  **The Lived Experience of Dance for Children with Hypermobility**  Children with hypermobility frequently participate in dance due to their natural flexibility, however they frequently experience negative symptoms which impact their continued participation, including pain and fatigue. This study explores the perspectives of children with hypermobility, their parents, dance teachers, and health professionals regarding dance participation.  *The scholar will conduct a content analysis of transcribed interviews to identify key themes and insights, under the guidance of PhD candidate Maria Yee.*  **Cultural Adaptation of the Physical Literacy Profile Questionnaire**  *(For fluent Brazilian Portuguese speakers only)*  Physical Literacy refers to the positive cycle of developing physical, social, cognitive and psychological skills through participation in physical activity. This project involves translating and evaluating the Physical Literacy Profile Questionnaire (PLPQuest) into English from Brazilian Portuguese, ensuring its relevance and validity in the Australian context.  *The scholar will translate the assessment, and be involved in evaluating the subsequent English version, including pilot testing with children.* |
| **Expected learning outcomes and deliverables:** | By participating in this project, the winter scholar will:   * Develop skills in qualitative and systematic review research methods, including data synthesis and content analysis. * Gain experience in conducting and transcribing interviews and focus groups with diverse stakeholders. * Learn how to assess the quality of research evidence and apply critical appraisal techniques. * Enhance understanding of physical literacy and its role in sport participation for children with disabilities. * Develop practical experience in cultural adaptation and validation of assessment tools (for PLPQuest project). * Strengthen academic writing, data organisation, and research communication skills. |
| **Suitable for:** | This project is open to applications from a health science background, with preference for students in second half of their course\* (E.g., 3rd or 4th year for bachelor students, second year for GEMS).  *\*Students who are fluent in Brazilian Portuguese at any stage in their course are highly encouraged to apply.* |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Dr Georgina Clutterbuck |
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