**2019-2020 SHRS UQ Summer Research Project Description**

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| **Project title:** | School readiness in Australia: How are communication skills defined for a child who is “school-ready”? |
| **Project duration:** | * 8 weeks * 36 hours/week |
| **Position/s available** | 1 position |
| **Description:** | School readiness is a concept that has received increased focus from researchers, clinicians and policy makers in the past decade. However, an agreed definition of school readiness does not currently exist. Further, the specific skills that constitute ‘school readiness’ are not well defined. This lack of agreement and knowledge creates a divide for understanding how school readiness should be assessed and also what the focus of ‘school ready’ intervention programs should be around the country. This project aims to take preliminary steps to improve the knowledge of school readiness in an Australian context, specifically related to communication. This project will focus on defining ‘school readiness’, and information pertaining to existing knowledge of school readiness and how it can be assessed will be sought through a systematic review. |
| **Expected outcomes and deliverables:** | The student may gain skills in systematic database searching, quantitative research methodologies, and will be provided with access to research networks and connections with other staff and postgraduate students. Depending on interest, scholars may have the opportunity to contribute to a publication. An opportunity for contributing to data collection may also be available. |
| **Suitable for:** | This project is open to applications from UQ students from the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences who have completed at least 1 year of study. |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Dr Rebecca Armstrong |
| **Further info:** | Please contact Rebecca Armstrong ([rebecca.armstrong@uq.edu.au](mailto:rebecca.armstrong@uq.edu.au)) or (07) 3346 7832) for further information about the project. |