

RECRUITMENT

Research Fellow, Digital Childhoods

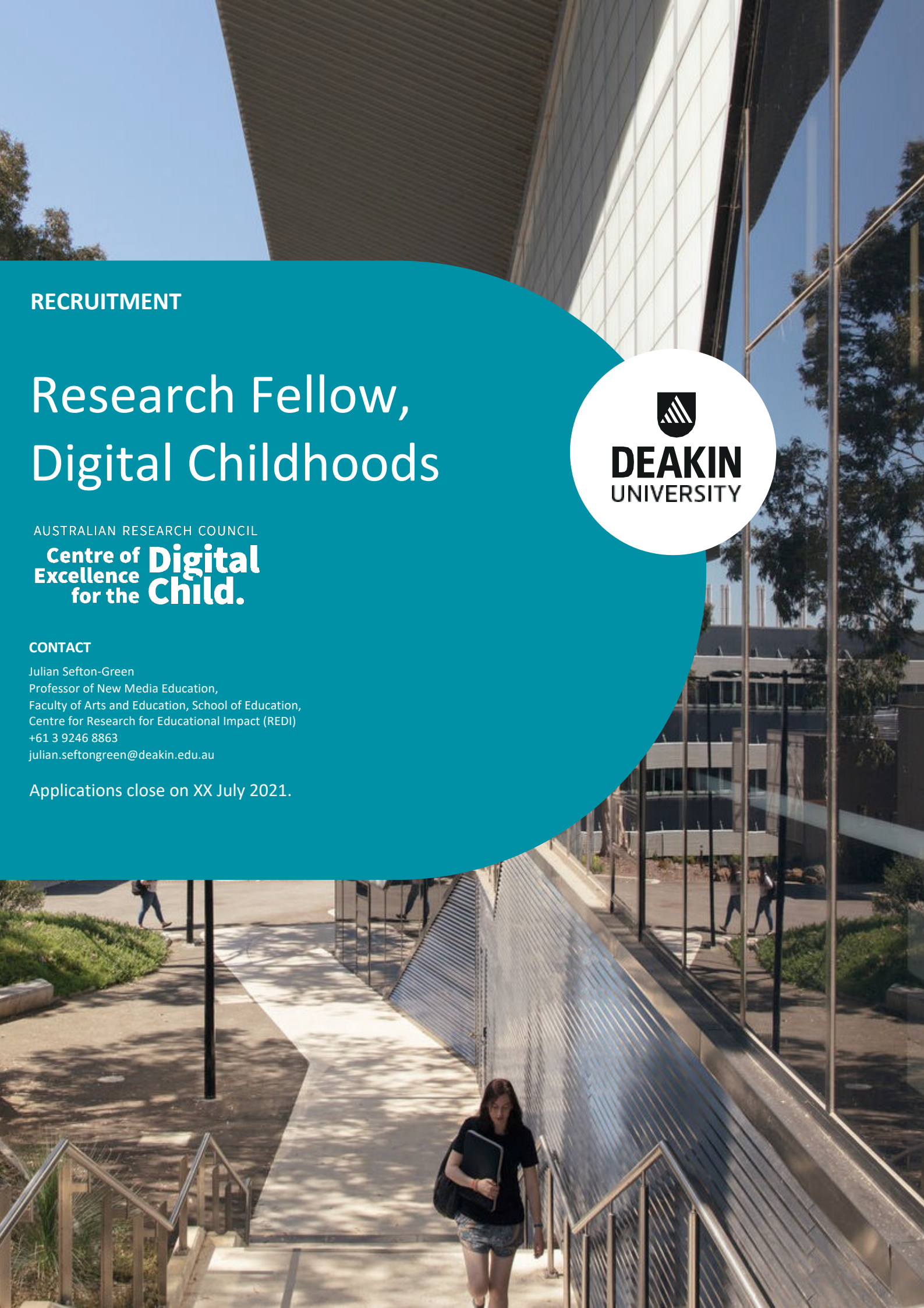
AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL

**Centre of
Excellence
for the Digital
Child.**

CONTACT

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Applications close on XX July 2021.



About Deakin

Top
1%
of the world's
universities

No. 1
In Victoria for
student satisfaction
ten years in a row
(2010-2019)

No. 261
ARWU global ranking
of world universities'
research capabilities

Deakin's growing reputation is reflected in its rapid rise in international rankings; Deakin entered the prestigious Academic Ranking of World Universities for the first time in 2014 and now ranks an estimated 261 (AWRU 2019). Deakin is ranked 29 in the QS ranking of the world's top universities under 50 years.

Established in 1974, Deakin University was named after the leader of the Australian Federation movement and the nation's second Prime Minister, Alfred Deakin.

Deakin University has five campuses, one in Melbourne's eastern suburbs, two in the port city of Geelong, one in Warrnambool on the south-west coast of Victoria, and more than 15,000 students study predominantly online as part of Deakin's Cloud Campus.

All students, regardless of their campus or mode of study, benefit from Deakin's award-winning digital environment.

Deakin is proud of its inclusive and student-focused culture and its reputation for using innovative digital solutions to provide an engaging and personalised learning experience. Deakin is committed to lifelong learning, providing students with choices about how, when and where learning occurs.

Deakin prides itself on developing career-ready graduates who are innovative, resilient, and well prepared for rapidly changing workforce needs. Deakin has a strong focus on teaching, with student satisfaction and the employability of its students being key indicators of success. Deakin ranks first in Victoria for student satisfaction (SES) and graduate employability (GOS).

Deakin's four faculties offer courses across the arts, design, science, sport, nutrition,

architecture, business, law, medicine, optometry, engineering, nursing, allied health, psychology and teaching.

With over 60 000 students Deakin is one of Australia's largest universities and is consistently ranked in the top 1% of the world's universities.

As an Australian university with global impact, Deakin is translating its research into the commercial outcomes that will drive the innovation Australia's economy needs now and into the future. Research at Deakin focusses on innovation and robust partnerships with industry and business, and it is building a formidable international reputation in areas of emerging national social, economic and political priority in its core areas of health, sport, carbon fibre, energy and cyber security. Deakin's manufacturing innovation precinct provides an important link between technological innovation and successful industry outcomes, strengthening and streamlining pathways for commercial research.

Our strategy

Deakin's vision and mission is articulated in its strategic plan *LIVE the future: Agenda 2020*. Through *LIVE the future*, Deakin aspires to be Australia's premier university in driving the digital frontier, enabling globally connected education for the jobs of the future, and research that makes a difference to the communities Deakin serves.

Informed by its Australian and Victorian context and engaged locally in the communities it serves, Deakin advances:

Learning – offering students a brilliant education where they are and where they want to go

Ideas – making a difference through world-class innovation and research

Value – strengthening our communities, enabling our partners and enhancing our enterprise

Experience – delighting our students, our alumni, our staff and our friends.

These four interconnecting elements form the acronym *LIVE*, and together they articulate the Deakin promise to its students, staff, alumni, partners and friends.

Faculty of Arts and Education

The Faculty of Arts and Education offers an exciting range of programs in teaching and research in Communication, Creative Arts, Social Sciences, Education and Indigenous Knowledge and Culture.

These are the human disciplines, which are vital to improving personal and professional outcomes and contributing to Australia as an equitable, humane and innovative society.

The Faculty is arranged around key academic entities:

- School of Communication and Creative Arts,
- School of Education,
- School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the
- National Indigenous Knowledges, Education, Research and Innovation Institute

Leading strategic research centres, the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation, Research for Educational Impact (REDI) and the Deakin Motion-Lab Centre for Creative Arts Research and the Centre for Humanitarian Leadership, enable our internationally renowned academics to lead thinking, ideas, research and teaching in their respective disciplines.

We have earned high international regard for innovation in creative arts, human sciences, including humanitarian leadership, criminology, contemporary history, teacher education and Indigenous knowledge. The Faculty's practices are founded on Deakin's longstanding commitment to equity and the achievement of personal, professional and community benefit through the power of education.

This Faculty celebrates staff excellence and success in teaching, research and a strong commitment to high quality outcomes that serve our communities. In the context of a rapidly changing and innovative digital world, we are working to achieve significant advancement for a sustainable future through:

- exciting courses that response to demand, innovation and professional readiness international strategic partnerships in teaching and research for high quality outcomes
- commitment to Indigenous knowledge, teaching and research in partnership with the National Indigenous Knowledges, Education, Research and Innovation Institute (NIKERI)
- collaborating seamlessly strong collaboration between Schools and Research Centres with communities, professions and partners
- achieving increased success for students, colleagues and the communities we serve.

Deakin's Promise to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

At Deakin we value diversity, embrace difference and nurture a connected, safe and respectful community. We recognise that our academic workforce is increasingly diverse with a variety of backgrounds, experiences and responsibilities. In many cases, academic careers can be put on hold through career breaks or part-time work arrangements to take on caring duties, gain experience in other industries, for medical reasons or other personal circumstances.

Achievement relative to opportunity places more emphasis on the quality as opposed to the quantity of research outputs. In your application, we encourage you to comment on your achievements relative to opportunity.

School of Education

The School of Education is one of the larger schools in the University and operates across 4 campuses - Melbourne Burwood, Geelong Warrnambool, Warrnambool and Cloud (online). It is a leading provider of primary and secondary teacher education, early childhood educator preparation, educational leadership and adult, vocational and applied learning education.

It also offers a range of innovative and flexible postgraduate and higher degree by research programs. Courses are offered to on-campus students at the Melbourne Burwood, Geelong Warrnambool and Warrnambool campuses, and to students throughout Australia and internationally via our Cloud Campus (online). Our strong doctoral programs are preparing the next generation of researchers and academics.

School of Education academics are part of knowledge building communities at local, state, national and international levels. We have a wide range of expertise including: Arts Education; Mathematics Education; Science, Technology and Environmental Education; Health and Physical Education; Language and Literacy Education; Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages; Teaching Languages; Humanities Education; Pedagogy and Curriculum; Educational Policy, Leadership and Internalisation; Early Childhood Education; Applied Learning and Professional Education and Training.

The School has a vibrant research culture and is involved in a number of ARC funded projects. Deakin University's Strategic Research Centre in Education, Research for Educational Impact (REDI) is located within the School of Education. Established in 2016, REDI builds on the previous achievements of the Centre for Research in Educational Futures and Innovation (CREFI, 2009-2015). Our research is designed around four distinctive areas of research concentration and is led by renowned scholars in collaboration with our highly active and successful educational researchers from a number of disciplines including CRADLE, Deakin University's Centre for Research in Assessment and Digital Learning.

Educational research at Deakin is premised on critical collaborations with key stakeholders, international scholars and agencies, including the government, industry and schools, with purposeful, strategic knowledge transfer through scholarly publications and professional forums to impact policy and practice. Our Partnerships Office offers specialised services for tendered and contract research across the globe.

The School offers a range of undergraduate and graduate initial teacher education programs for early childhood, primary, and secondary teaching as well as continuing professional learning programs in postgraduate degrees. We also offer a suite of Certificate, Graduate Certificate and Masters level courses specialising in the areas of Educational Leadership and Administration, Inclusive Education, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and Teaching Languages. Many courses have attractive optional pathways and flexible entry and exit points providing versatility for busy professionals. In addition, the School offers the Graduate Certificate of Higher Education Learning and Teaching, designed to meet the requirements for tertiary teaching for academic staff at Deakin.

The School maintains a strong commitment to distance education and flexible learning. We provide the opportunity to 'learn where you live', and this means that the School's students are in all areas of Victoria, as well as across Australia and in international settings. We also welcome students from many regions, including North and South America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia, to study on-campus.



Research for Educational Impact

Deakin University's Strategic Research Centre in Education, Research for Educational Impact (REDI) is located within the School of Education.

deakin.edu.au/redi

Established in 2016, REDI builds on the previous achievements of the Centre for Research in Educational Futures and Innovation (CREFI, 2009-2015). Our research is focussed around four distinctive areas of research and is led by renowned scholars in collaboration with highly active and successful educational researchers from a number of disciplines, as well as from the Centre for Research in Assessment and Digital Learning (CRADLE).

REDI is at the forefront of connections with our communities and policy and practice through innovation and collaborations that showcase the digital footprint of Deakin University.

Quality of research

In the Australian Research Council's (ARC) 2018 national Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) assessment, Deakin University gained a score of 4 out of 5 ('Above world standard') for Education, illustrating the capacity, reputation and impact of Deakin's educational researchers.

In its inaugural Engagement and Impact Assessment, which presents the outcomes of its nationwide assessment of university research engagement and impact, the ARC also gave Deakin University the highest possible rating ('High') for research impact in the discipline of Education.

REDI has over 50 actively involved researchers aligned to four major areas of research concentration. Our hallmark of educational impact is created through distinctive and high-quality research that generates new knowledge 'research **for** education' rather than 'research **on** education'.

Research concentrations

Our four areas of research concentration are:

- Education Policy and Governance (EPG)
- Children, Young People and their Communities (CYPC)
- Curriculum, Assessment, Pedagogy and Digital Learning (CAPDL)
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education (STEME)

REDI hosts one of the nodes in the recently awarded ARC Centre of Excellence for study of the Digital Child (2020-2027) and is currently consolidating expertise and scholarship in digital society, cultural studies and youth.

Educational research at Deakin is premised on critical collaborations with key stakeholders, international scholars and agencies, including the government, industry and schools, with purposeful, strategic knowledge transfer through scholarly publications and professional forums to impact policy and practice. Our Partnerships Office offers specialised services for tendered and contract research across the globe.



Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child

The Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child is the world's first research centre dedicated to creating positive digital childhoods for all Australian children.

digitalchild.org.au

Funded through a \$34.9M grant and an additional \$32.2M in cash and in-kind contributions from national and international partners, the Centre will deliver and disseminate evidence-based research for Australian children to be healthy, educated and connected in a digital world.

Led by and headquartered at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in Brisbane, the Centre comprises researchers from Australian universities including Curtin University, Deakin University, Edith Cowan University, The University of Queensland and University of Wollongong.

The Centre's research innovates and intersects across fields of health, education and technology to offer a holistic view of young children and their digital experiences. The heart of the Centre's research program is its Longitudinal Family Study – a seven-year study of 3000 Australian families, focusing on children from birth to eight years of age. The study is designed to provide the big picture – to identify potential problems and unmet possibilities associated with digital technologies in early childhood. A range of cross-disciplinary projects, all connected, will provide evidence focused on three key areas:

Healthy Child: balancing the health risks of digital technologies against access to knowledge and social interactions that provide opportunity for positive physical, social and emotional wellbeing.

Educated Child: harnessing digital technologies to optimise learning and access to knowledge through active interactions and development of engaging and thought-provoking technologies.

Connected Child: balancing access to social and knowledge connections in the digital world against risks of surveillance, infringements of privacy and child rights.

Outcomes will include recommendations for policy-makers and curriculum development to enable child-directed digital learning, participation and enjoyment; guidelines and resources for parents, educators and communities about safe and effective digital practices; technological innovations that support children's digital engagement; professional development programs for those working with children; and build research capacity with high quality graduates and early career researchers.

A dynamic team of professional staff provide research administration support to coordinate and administer the Centre's operations and activities.

Research Fellow, Digital Childhoods (ARC Centre for the Digital Child)

The Faculty of Arts and Education is seeking to appoint two **Research Fellows** to join a team working at Deakin University in the Strategic Research Centre in Education, Research for Educational Impact (REDI), located in the School of Education.

Research staff report to the Director of REDI and Head of School of Education. Their work is determined by the ARC Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child. The Deakin node is currently led by Julian Sefton-Green, Professor of New Media Education, along with Dr. Luci Pangrazio.

The appointment is full time for three years. This is a Level B position.

The appointees may work with support and direction from the Chief Investigators in partner universities at the Centre of Excellence.

It is expected that the appointees are able to work independently and with high levels of initiative and creativity in the range of research activities that they will undertake.

POSITION PURPOSE

The Research Fellows will initiate and conduct research associated with **Digital Child** Research Programs housed at the Centre of Research for Educational Impact (REDI). The Research Fellows are expected to support and contribute to the research activities and outputs of the Centre. The appointees will be employed full-time for three years.

ORGANISATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

The appointees are expected to work closely with the ARC Centres' Chief Investigators at Deakin and, as directed, with other Chief Investigators from partner universities. In addition, they may collaborate with other colleagues working in cognate areas, REDI and School of Education staff.

The appointees will have the opportunity to both carry out research activities independently and with the team in ways that build on and

support initiatives. They will work both nationally and internationally.

The Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child

The Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child is the world's first research centre dedicated to creating positive digital childhoods for all Australian children. The research intersects across fields of health, education and technology to offer a holistic view of young children and their digital experiences across three key areas – the Healthy Child, the Educated Child and the Connected Child. The centre will also conduct a Longitudinal Family Study – a seven-year study of 3000 Australian families, focusing on children from birth to eight years of age.

Outcomes of the Digital Child will include recommendations for policy-makers, curriculum development and resources, technological innovations and professional development programs.

The appointees will work on projects across the Digital Child's framework. The Deakin node is especially seeking expertise to support the Connected and the Education program strands. One of the positions will be expected to support the longitudinal study (0.2FTE). Projects may run for at least 18 months and involve qualitative and/or experimental research design. Fellows will be expected to both lead and support projects simultaneously and to take responsibility for project design, management and delivery. Projects within the connected program will focus on questions around datafication and the political economy of digital childhood. Projects within the education programme will revolve around learning across sites, communication and language use, and play within digital contexts. Research fellows will be expected to develop ownership of projects and advance

their own research agenda in these broad content areas.

Research Fellow, Digital Childhoods (ARC Centre for the Digital Child)

THE APPOINTEE WILL

- Join a vibrant strategic research centre and a prestigious team of scholars who will provide mentoring and support. S/he will be encouraged to develop new strands of research from the project.
- Initiate and conduct research under limited supervision or independently that builds on the priorities and aims of the program through national and international projects.
- Support the team in a range of research activities in consultation with the project lead.
- Attend meetings, activities and research associated with the research program and attend other meetings as appropriate, such as Institute / School / Faculty meetings.
- Provide support to the project team in the development and coordination of associated reports and various communications as well as academic events and activities.
- Work with program developers to oversee the effective positive implementation and functioning of the research
- Disseminate research in a variety of ways including in scholarly and

high-quality journal outlets as well as other written/digital forms and oral presentations in relation to and in collaboration with key stakeholders supporting the project.

- Other reasonable duties as directed by the Deakin Chief Investigators and REDI.

LEVEL OF SUPERVISION AND INDEPENDENCE

Individual research is conducted independently in the context of frequent consultation with the program leader. Administrative duties are to be carried under the supervision of the Digital Child CI's and REDI.

PROBLEM SOLVING AND JUDGEMENT

The appointees are expected to exercise judgement on work methods and task sequences within standard practices and procedures and to seek expert advice for work methods that fall outside the standard practices.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

The appointees will be responsible for:

- Following safe work procedures and instructions.

- Taking reasonable care for the safety of self and others.
- Seeking guidance for all new or modified work procedures.
- Ensuring that any hazardous conditions, near misses and injuries are reported immediately to a supervisor.
- Participating in meetings, training and other health and safety activities.
- Using equipment in compliance with relevant guidelines, without wilful interference or misuse.
- Must cooperate with the University in relation to actions taken by the University in order to comply with the Occupational Health and Safety and Environmental legislation.

In addition, research-only academic staff are responsible for ensuring that an equivalent standard of environment, health and safety is afforded to their students as is afforded to University staff generally. Research-only academic staff are deemed to have principal supervisory duty for undergraduate and postgraduate research student activities.

Performance expectations

Annual performance objectives and expected outcomes will be defined for this role in accordance with the Minimum Standards and Typical Duties for Academic Levels (MSTDALs) and Faculty Research Expectation Models (FREMs). Specific duties will be allocated with reference to the applicable Workload Allocation Model (WAM). These documents are updated from time to time and are available on request.

Research Fellow, Digital Childhoods (ARC Centre for the Digital Child)

SELECTION CRITERIA

The appointees will be selected through a competitive application and assessment process.

Candidates will have:

SELECTION CRITERIA – ESSENTIAL

Qualifications

- A relevant or soon-to-be-completed doctoral qualification in education and/or media/cultural studies and/or gender studies and/or other social sciences

Experience

- Ability to initiate new research and be an effective member of collaborative interdisciplinary teams
- Relative to opportunity, a research track record in areas aligned with the themes of the initiative
- Capacity to write for high quality peer review publications (measured in terms of ERA quality standards)
- Ability to organise and coordinate tasks associated with a research project to a high standard and to tight timelines
- Demonstrated organisational and project management skills, including the ability to work in diverse and complex environment in a multi-disciplinary team with limited supervision

- Ability to develop research projects in diverse social settings and to build relationships with diverse constituencies and stakeholders
- Ability to write high quality documentation for non-traditional and traditional outlets
- Interview skills and the capacity to organise and carry out qualitative research including ethnographic work
- Ability to undertake or coordinate the necessary writing and follow up tasks associated with ethics applications
- Ability to organise and coordinate data collection activities associated with some of the project across the four states

SELECTION CRITERIA – DESIRABLE

- Strong research interest in the education sector, youth and the impacts of social change in the context of digital technologies
- Willingness and ability to travel nationally and internationally
- The ability to hold a Victorian drivers' licence is desirable
- Skills in either quantitative or qualitative data organisation and analysis (familiarity with using qualitative data analysis software – e.g. 'R', MPlus, SPSS, NVivo)

Appointment process and how to apply

Application

Thank you for your interest in the position of Research Fellow, Digital Childhoods (ARC Centre for the Digital Child).

Please direct all enquiries about this position to Professor Julian Sefton-Green

+61 3 9246 8863
julian.seftongreen@deakin.edu.au

How to apply

Please apply online via:

deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/work-at-deakin

Include a cover letter and a curriculum vitae. Your cover letter (no more than three pages) should include a response to the Selection Criteria. Please also attach a one-page outline of a project you would like to undertake, explaining why you would like to do this and why you think it might be important. Projects should be framed with the three programme strands of the Digital Child centre.

Interview process

An initial screening of prospective candidates will take place.

Short-listed candidates will be interviewed by a panel.

Details of professional referees will be required prior to interview.

Remuneration and benefits

\$99,346-\$117,503 plus 17% Superannuation. This is a full-time fixed-term position for three years.

Location

This position is located at the Burwood Campus. Staff may be required to travel from time-to-time to and from campuses to meet work requirements.

Term of appointment

This position is a fixed term position for a period of three years. The University may require an academic staff member who is offered a continuing or fixed term appointment with the University to serve a probation period.

Special Requirement/s

This role has been identified as having contact with children and requires the incumbent to apply for and maintain a Working With Children Check (refer to Deakin's Recruitment Procedure for further details).

Our locations

Deakin has five campuses, one in **Burwood**, two in Geelong (**Waterfront** and **Waurin Ponds**), one in **Warrnambool** and the vibrant Cloud Campus where over 25% of our students study. All students, regardless of their campus or mode of study, benefit from Deakin's award-winning digital environment.

Melbourne has been named the world's most liveable city for more than 5 years running*.

Further information regarding our locations and relocating to Victoria can be found here:

[Our locations](#)

[Considering Relocation](#)

[Melbourne timelapse](#)

BURWOOD CAMPUS

Melbourne Burwood Campus is Deakin's thriving metropolitan campus, attracting over 32,000 undergraduate and postgraduate on-campus students. It boasts open and inviting spaces for socialising and studying, innovative architecture, spacious new buildings and wireless hotspots.

