



## **LSI Postgraduate Research Student - Placement Opportunity**

**An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Postgraduate Researcher to work on a project with video production company INC360.**

INC360 is a Community Interest Company in the early stages of developing a service for children and young people experiencing loneliness. Many children and young people find themselves isolated due to situations out of their control and miss out on opportunities their peers are enjoying. Whether this is due to having a long term illness, being a young carer or suffering from social anxiety, we want to enable them to participate in community-based activities and events by bringing the outside world in using 360-degree video watched on VR headsets. Our saying is that 'Everyone has the right to feel included'.

They are currently developing group workshops which will use storytelling and drama to create a journey to an event or location which will be the video. Throughout the workshop, the participants will come up against real-life scenarios where they'll need to use life skills like creative thinking and empathy to reach their final decision. To develop the content for these sessions, they need to collect data from various user groups to understand the scope of the service as well as specific areas of interest for age groups. Through the research, they would like to understand the effects of loneliness on children and young people, how the skills they learn in the workshops can impact their mental health and the overall user journey.

### **The project**

The objective of this research placement is to help understand the prevalence of loneliness amongst children and young people and any lasting effects on their mental health.

The research will cover the following areas:

- Quantitative:
- Research and contact potential user groups in the Yorkshire region.
- Develop questionnaires and surveys for these groups
- Provide clear reports based on the research findings which will influence the next phase of research

Qualitative:

- Arrange peer sessions where our users will experience the videos on a tablet and a headset in a group environment
- Create a physical feedback form

### **Proposed timescales**

This placement would be 130 hours in total to start as soon as possible

You would be expected to commit a minimum of 4 core hours per week for 24 weeks. Additionally, the team would like the PGR to attend each workshop including a briefing and review either side of the session and any strategy meetings.

The team at INC360 have advised that they will approach this partnership with flexibility and recognise that course and personal commitments may mean that those hours might need to be spread differently.

The placement will be conducted remotely although it is hoped that a number of the workshops will be able to go ahead in person in April 2021 (covid guidance permitting).

No equipment will be provided so you will need to be able to access a laptop/computer and internet connection.

The successful candidate will be provided a bursary of £1950

You will be required to complete Safeguarding training and undergo a DBS check (This will be paid for by the company for the successful candidate if they do not already have these)

When attending a workshop, any travel costs associated with this will be covered

### **The ideal candidate and skills required**

- Strong research and report writing skills
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to build effective working relationships with colleagues from clinical and non-clinical backgrounds.
- Excellent verbal, written and presentation skills, being adaptable in the delivery of information to suit the audience.
- Organised, flexible, adaptable, and positive.
- Confident in their skills, a self-starter and able to work unsupervised
- Passionate about diversity and inclusion, understanding the needs of both when conducting research
- Previous experience working with children and young people is desirable
- An understanding of the University of Leeds ethical Procedures and able to submit an ethical review in partnership with INC360 to the University of Leeds Ethics team.

### **The anticipated benefits to the student's skills/experience**

As you will be joining the team during their pilot phase, you will play a vital role in helping them create case studies which will form the basis of our funding applications.

You will gain real-life experience working with a Tech for Good start-up and influence the direction of the service. You will be helping to support the 10% of children and young people in Yorkshire and Humber who say they regularly feel lonely, by providing them with a chance to enjoy their childhood without missing out due to circumstances they cannot control.

If you are interested in applying for this placement position please send:

- CV
- Cover Letter – addressing how you meet the candidate criteria
- Email or signature from your Supervisor that they are happy for you to undertake the placement

To LSSI Business Partnership Manager Hannah Crow H.E.Crow@leeds.ac.uk by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 5pm.