



Opportunity: Senior Research Assistant

To understand more about the benefits of our popular Froebel Trust [Short](#) and [Online](#) Courses and their transformational potential for early childhood educators we are conducting a year-long research study.

To support this work, we are inviting Expressions of Interest for a Senior Research Assistant

The post will be for one day a week (equivalent) for one year to be worked between November 2025-26. The position does not attract a contract of employment. The Senior Research Assistant will be self-employed, and the Froebel Trust expects them to make their own arrangements for UK tax and National Insurance contributions. The rate of pay will be £19.75 per hour inclusive of VAT.

With guidance and support from the Project Lead Dr Nicola Kemp, [Director of Insight & Impact](#), the role will involve:

- Undertaking a literature and policy review focused on professional development in early childhood education.
- Interviewing tutors about course design and andragogy, and observing these in practice
- Conducting interviews and focus groups (both online and in person) with early childhood educators who have completed or are doing a Froebel Trust course
- Transcribing and analysing qualitative data
- Managing and analysing quantitative survey data
- Writing a project report and contributing to academic papers

Although much of the work can be conducted remotely (requiring access to a computer, reliable broadband and an appropriate working space), the postholder will need to be able to travel within the UK for data collection and meetings (relevant expenses would be paid). ***Applicants must be UK residents and will need to provide evidence of their Right to Work in the UK***

To be considered for the role you must be able to evidence how you meet each of the following criteria:

- Have a PhD/EdD in the field of Early Childhood Education
- Interest and relevant research experience in professional development in ECE
- Proficiency in both qualitative and quantitative analysis
- Excellent communication skills in both spoken and written English
- Familiarity with Froebelian pedagogy

To maintain impartiality in the research, we regret that we cannot accept applications from candidates who have a conflict of interest - for example, as a Froebel Trust tutor, participant in a previous or current Froebel Trust online or short course, committee member or Trustee.

How to apply

We welcome informal enquiries prior to application. To arrange a conversation with Dr Nicola Kemp, please email office@froebeltrust.org.uk

If you are interested, please complete this [online form](#) by 5pm on Monday 27th October 2025. Longer answers are limited to 1000 characters so you may find it easier to prepare these first in 'word' and then paste into the form.

If you have been shortlisted, you will be contacted by Monday 3rd November 2025 and asked to send in your CV and an example of a piece of your assessed or published writing. Please note we are unable to provide feedback to applicants who have not been shortlisted.

Interviews will take place (online) on Tuesday 12th November 2025 and you will be informed of the outcome by Friday 14th November 2025.

Start date: Ideally during the week of 24th November 2025

References will only be sought after interview for the successful candidates.

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy](#) We are a grant making charity. We value diversity in all our work and promote a culture in which everyone is treated fairly.