



Become part of our children's future.

Doctoral Research Studentships (x4)

The Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education (CECDE) is a partnership initiative between the Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra and the Department of Education and Science. It arose from recommendations in the White Paper on Early Childhood Education, *Ready to Learn*. The main functions of the CECDE are to:

- Develop a quality framework for early childhood education;
- Implement targeted interventions on a pilot basis for children who are educationally disadvantaged and children with special needs;
- Advise the Minister for Education and Science on early childhood education and prepare the groundwork for the establishment of the Early Childhood Education Agency as envisaged in the White Paper.

As part of its brief to enhance the research capacity of the sector, the CECDE invites applications for **Doctoral Research Studentships**. The focus of these Doctoral Research Studentships will be in the field of early childhood care and education (birth to six years of age). Consideration will be especially given to the following areas of research:

- Curriculum and pedagogical practice in early childhood education
- Creating indoor and outdoor learning spaces
- Language acquisition in the early years
- Supporting partnership with parents
- Regulation and early childhood education

The CECDE will facilitate supervision arrangements to meet the needs of the successful candidates, normally within the host institutions of St. Patrick's College and the DIT.

Applicants for the Doctoral Research Studentships will hold at least a 2.1 Honours Degree or a Masters in Education, Psychology, Social Science or a cognate discipline. Successful candidates not holding a Master's Degree may be registered initially on the Master's programme, with the opportunity of transferring to the Doctoral Register after one year. Successful candidates who already have a Masters will enter directly on the Doctoral Register. These positions are for a three-year period with an annual maintenance grant of €16,000, while students are exempt from research programme fees.

Further details relating to these Studentships can be obtained from:

Sharon O' Brien, CECDE, The Gate Lodge, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 1 884 2110.

Email: sharon.obrien@spd.dcu.ie

Website: www.cecde.ie

Closing date for applications is

Friday 30th March 2007.

*The Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education
is an equal opportunities employer.*

