

The School of Education at Bangor University are delighted to offer fully funded Wales Graduate School for the Social Sciences (WGSSS) (ESRC DTP) studentships starting in October 2024.

Developing an adapted curriculum of Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) for children and young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

In Wales, 1 in 6 children and young people have a diagnosable mental health problem, significantly impacting their experience of education, and many more struggle with Adverse Childhood Experiences which are directly connected to mental health problems in adulthood. Consequently, the Children's Commissioner has called for urgent action to improve support for children and young people experiencing mental health difficulties, especially following the Covid-19 pandemic. However, mental health problems among young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) are often overlooked, underdiagnosed, and incorrectly attributed to the person's IDD despite the prevalence of mental health problems in this population being several times that of the general population. Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) is well documented as an effective approach for improving mental health and wellbeing in all populations. Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board have conducted promising preliminary work in determining the suitability of the DBT curriculum for use with those with IDD in schools. They have found that an adaptation of this curriculum could have a positive impact on the mental health and wellbeing, and subsequently access to quality education for children and young people with IDD.

The duration of study is dependent on prior research experience and training needs which will be



Then select

Please include the following documents with your application:

1) Cover letter (two pages maximum)

The cover letter must include the following bullet points as subheadings:

- Please name the collaborative studentship being applied for and set out your reasons and motivation for applying to study at Bangor University, in the Education pathway.
- Please detail your understanding, and expectations of doctoral study.
- Provide detail of your academic interests generally, and particularly of those relating to your proposed research.
- Drawing on your own background (including your life experiences, journey to/through university, work experiences or volunteering) please provide a summary of why you are ready to undertake a PhD now and how you will flourish as a result of PhD funding. You might include, for example, personal challenges that you have overcome or achievements that you are proud of in your work, study or life experiences and how these map onto the skills required to flourish in a PhD programme. Challenges could include, but are not limited to, protected characteristics, socio-economic status and of being a prospective first-generation student or

