



SpLD Assessment Standards Committee

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Role of SASC Research Advisor

Background

An exciting opportunity to support and help inform the work of SASC, the SpLD Assessment Standards Committee. SASC's role is to oversee and coordinate research and consultations underpinning assessment guidance. The Research Advisor will help ensure that the Board remains informed about current research developments and their implications for assessment practice.

Responsibilities

- Advise the Chair and Board on current and emerging research relevant to SpLD assessment and related fields.
- Monitor developments in academic literature, policy, assessment practice and allied disciplines that may have implications for SASC guidance.
- Identify significant research findings, trends and debates that may be relevant to SASC's work.
- Develop links with universities, researchers, professional bodies and practitioners to facilitate knowledge exchange.
- Prepare research briefings, literature reviews, reports and presentations for the Board as required.
- Assist working groups by advising on relevant research evidence and its implications for professional practice.
- Support the interpretation and application of research evidence in the development of guidance and advice.
- Present summaries of important research developments to the Board and wider professional community where appropriate.
- Contribute agenda items concerning research developments requiring discussion at SASC meetings.

General

Support the Chair and SASC Board in the following areas:

- Ensure that SASC guidance, advice and professional standards are informed by robust and up-to-date research evidence.

- Promote a culture of evidence-informed practice throughout the work of SASC.
- Identify gaps, emerging themes and areas of uncertainty in the evidence base relating to SpLD assessment.
- Encourage collaboration and dialogue between practitioners, researchers and professional organisations.
- Support working groups and sub-committees in gathering, evaluating and applying relevant evidence.
- Promote awareness of significant research findings through presentations, briefings, webinars and professional networks.
- Respond to enquiries relating to research evidence, methodology and interpretation, having consulted relevant Board members where appropriate.
- Maintain awareness of ethical, methodological and professional standards relevant to research in the field.

Guidelines on the Desirable Qualities of a Research Advisor

- Strong understanding of research methods, including both quantitative and qualitative approaches.
- Ability to critically evaluate research evidence and communicate findings clearly to both academic and practitioner audiences.
- Good organisational skills, efficiency and ability to meet deadlines.
- Ability to synthesise complex information and identify implications for policy and professional practice.
- Ability to encourage the full participation of Board members and stakeholders in research-informed decision-making.
- Ability to recognise expertise amongst colleagues and foster productive links between practitioners and researchers.
- Possession of a wide-ranging and comprehensive understanding of SpLD assessment, educational research and related disciplines.
- Awareness of the strengths, limitations and complexities of research evidence and its application to professional practice.
- Ability to pursue a collaborative and non-adversarial approach when working with colleagues, Board members and external partners.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to maintain integrity, objectivity and professionalism.

How to apply

Applicants will supply a record of their qualifications and relevant professional experience. They should hold a current APC or be a registered practitioner psychologist or demonstrate equivalent expertise in research relating to SpLD assessment and education. They will demonstrate a strong interest in research,

evidence-informed practice and developments in assessment standards, together with experience of working with a range of age groups.

The role would be home-based with occasional meetings in person as arranged. All SASC Board members are volunteers and, as such, there is no salary for the role, although paid expenses are offered for attendance at in-person meetings as required.

Please contact SASC if you are interested, sending a current CV and personal statement outlining your experience and interests relevant to the role to: info@sasc.org.uk.