Summer Undergraduate Research Programme 2025

The Summer Undergraduate Research Programme (SURP) is part of the CREATE-DkIT project, which is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern & Midland Regional Programme 2021-27.

Project ID	SURP2504
Project Name	Enhancing Children's Music Video Experience in a Popular Music Education Summer Camp
Applicant	DkIT-Registered Only

Research Project's Aim and Objectives

This research project is being performed with Rock Jam, a popular music education organization based in Dublin. The project examines Rock Jam's summer camps for children, looking specifically at the practice of recording music videos at the end of each camp. It uses a combination of literature review, observational research, and applied work. The researcher, working with a multidisciplinary supervisory team, will 1) research best practices in music video education projects for children, 2) observe music video creation at Rock Jam to identify aspects that are successful and those that could be improved, and 3) suggest and trial specific, concrete recommendations for improvement, with the overall aim of enhancing the music videos for summer campers in future years.

The undergraduate researcher, guided by their supervisory team, will combine several modes of research and activity:

1) Literature review: Review the academic and practice-based literature to identify best practices in film outputs for short-term educational projects with children and young people.
2) Ethnographic/observational research: Observe summer camp activities to identify and document successful music video practices already occurring within Rock Jam's summer camps.
3) Ethnographic/observational research: Identify areas in which Rock Jam's music video practices might be improved in order to enhance the students' summer camp experiences. These areas may include, but are not limited to, actions for increased equity and inclusion as regards gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity, and disability and neurodivergence.
4) Applied research: Make specific recommendations for enhancing the music video projects and implement trials of recommendations, reflecting and reporting on their success, usefulness, and/or practicality.
5) Reporting: Share findings with stakeholders (including Rock Jam staff and the DkIT community) in a written report and oral presentations. If the student is interested, there are opportunities for sharing the findings (along with the supervisors) through an academic conference presentation and a published journal article.

Profile of Student Needed

The ideal candidate will be a student on any of the undergraduate programmes in the Department of Creative Arts, Media and Music at DkIT, who has some of the following characteristics:

- Enthusiasm for the project
- Interest in academic research
- Well-developed academic writing style
- Experience in film (e.g., writing, editing, directing, acting) and/or live performance (as a performer, technician, or both)
- Experience or interest in working with children

You do not need all these traits in order to apply; this is a list of qualities that will make your application stand out, and we encourage you to highlight any of these that you do have in your cover letter.

Location

This is a hybrid role involving, 1 day per week on site in Dublin (travel and subsistence paid for through project funding), while the rest can be completed remotely or on the DkIT campus.

Informal Project Contact

If you have any questions about the project itself, please contact Kayla Rush: kayla.rush@dkit.ie

Conditions

Conditions of the programme:
- To be eligible, students must be starting their 3rd or 4th year of an undergraduate programme in Semester 1 of 2025/2026
- This project is open to DkIT-registered students only
- Successful students will receive a weekly scholarship of €200
- Awarded students must attend virtual and in-person training held over the 8-week period, including an in-person induction on July 1st
- Awarded students must present a poster at a research dissemination event in October 2025

How to Apply

Using the Project ID in the subject line, please email your current CV, along with a cover letter, to Elaine O'Neill, Research Support Officer at elaine.oneill@dkit.ie by **12pm, Monday May 12th 2025**.

Interviews will take place in the week of May 19th.