

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Title:

Enhancing early childhood nutrition in early childhood education and care settings: Innovative system strategies for healthier generations

Project Summary: aims, significance, expected outcomes, and potential research impact.

This PhD project **aims** to enhance the health and development outcomes of children in early childhood education and care settings (ECEC) through optimising nutrition. Recognising the critical role of early dietary habits in lifelong health, the research seeks to develop, implement, and evaluate innovative interventions. **Significance** is in scalable intervention design, and findings will be distributed via a national network. **Outcomes:** improved food environment quality in ECEC impacting- children, parents, educators, and assessment and rating officers and ECEC staff health and wellbeing. **Impact** primarily improves health and developmental outcomes of children, thus, fostering a healthier future generation and informing public health policies and educational curricula on nutrition.

Preferred applicant skill set, describe the capabilities of the HDR applicant:

The ideal candidate for this position should have an academic background in nutrition, health promotion, or a related field. They should also have exposure to qualitative and quantitative methodologies. A strong interest in taking a systems approach to optimising nutrition in early childhood is highly valued. The candidate should be able to work independently and collaboratively with various stakeholders. Additionally, good communication skills, both written and verbal, are essential, as well as a passion for improving the health and wellbeing of children. Creativity and problem-solving abilities are also crucial for driving innovative solutions in this research area

Internship opportunity:

National Nutrition Network – Early Childhood Education and Care (NNN-ECEC) – <https://www.nationalnutritionnetwork.com.au/>.

The NNN-ECEC is a national intermediary group that supports the translation of evidence into practice and policy. The group meets regularly and engages with critical stakeholders. An intern would have the opportunity to support stakeholder engagement; manuscript development; social media communications; member activity analysis; report writing, submissions; and meeting coordination for the Network.

Contact person for the project:

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