White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership (WRDTP)
Research in Practice (RinP) Placement Opportunity

The following information has been provided by the Host Organisation and outlines the placement opportunity available. Any queries about this placement should be addressed to the Host Organisation at the details provided below.

All placements must meet the criteria listed in the WRDTP RinP Placement Framework.

This opportunity is for Postgraduate Researchers with secured funding and authorisation from their doctoral funding body to undertake a three-month placement.

Host Details	
Name of Host Organisation:	Football Unites, Racism Divides (FURD)
Host location:	U-mix Centre, Lowfield, Sheffield
Brief description of the Host Organisation: *Please include a link to a website if you have one.*	Football Unites, Racism Divides (FURD) is a Sheffield-based charity established in 1996 that uses the power of football, education, and community engagement to challenge racism, promote equality, and strengthen community cohesion. For over 30 years, FURD has worked with diverse communities, particularly young people, refugees, asylum seekers and marginalised groups, creating opportunities for participation, learning, leadership and social inclusion. Through grassroots programmes, educational initiatives, partnerships, and advocacy, FURD continues to champion the belief that more unites us than divides us.
Equal opportunities statement:	FURD EDI Policy
Host contact details:	***Any queries about this opportunity should be addressed to the Host Organisation:*** Mehrun Ahmed, Co-Director of FURD mehrun@furd.org

Project Description	
Placement role title: *e.g. Project Assistant*	Research Intern
Background/ expected impact of the project:	We are looking for a Research Intern with a strong academic background and an interest in community cohesion, sport for development, social inclusion and equality. The ideal candidate will have good research and analytical skills, an understanding of how sport can bring diverse communities together, and an interest in exploring the social impact of grassroots initiatives. The role will support FURD's research, impact evaluation and evidence-based approach to community development
Outline of duties:	● Support research on community cohesion, sport for development, equality and social inclusion. ● Conduct literature reviews and identify relevant academic research, policies and good practices. ● Assist with collecting, organising and analysing qualitative and quantitative data. ● Support FURD in evaluating the social impact of its programmes and activities. ● Help develop case studies, research summaries and impact reports. ● Explore emerging trends, challenges and opportunities within grassroots sport and community development. ● Contribute to discussions around FURD's strategic development, partnerships and advocacy work. ● Support the development of research-informed recommendations to improve programmes and community engagement.
Expected output(s)/ deliverable(s):	A reflective PowerPoint presentation on the outcomes and outputs from the RinP placement with FURD

Support for Postgraduate Researcher:	• Opportunities to gain practical research experience within a community-based organisation. • Access to relevant projects, programmes and organisational resources. • Guidance and mentoring from experienced staff. • Opportunities to engage with community partners and diverse groups. • Support with data collection, research development and impact evaluation. • Flexibility to align the role with academic interests and research objectives. • Opportunities to contribute to reports, publications and organisational learning. The level of support and specific opportunities will be discussed and agreed based on the researcher's academic requirements and FURD's capacity.
Skills and experience required for the role:	• Academic background in Social Sciences, Sport Development, • Community Development or a related field. • Understanding of community cohesion, equality, diversity and social inclusion. • Good research, analytical and report-writing skills. • Basic knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods. • Strong communication and organisational skills. • Ability to work independently and as part of a team. • Interest in grassroots sport, community engagement and social impact. Desirable: Previous research, volunteering or community development experience. Requirements are flexible and can be adapted based on the candidate's background and interests.

Key Information	
Placement ideal start date:	Open to discussion, but ideally early 2027
Placement duration:	13 weeks
Full-time or part-time: *e.g. 37.5 hours per week or usually 18-19 hours per week*	Full-time, 37.5 hours per week

In-person, online or hybrid:	Hybrid (2 days per week in Sheffield, and the rest from a flexible location)
Security/ health and safety restrictions (if relevant):	N/A
Anticipated costs and financial support the Host can offer to help cover these (if relevant): *e.g. travel and subsistence costs.*	This placement is offered on an unpaid basis. The host organisation will not cover your PhD funding during the placement. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that their programme funding will continue during the placement. Essential travel expenses may be claimed from the WRDTP.

How to Apply	
Applicant eligibility:	This opportunity is for Postgraduate Researchers with secured funding and authorisation from their doctoral funding body to undertake a three-month placement. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the placement meets the criteria specified by their programme and university and that they secure the necessary permissions from their university before commencing the placement.
Closing date and time for applications:	Rolling deadline, however, applications invited ASAP
Application format: *e.g. CV, cover letter, application form, etc*	CV of no more than 2 pages Short covering letter/statement outlining why you want to work with FURD and what you can bring to the role.
How to submit an application:	Complete the WRDTP Placement Application Form and email the requested documents to **placements@wrdtp.ac.uk**
Recruitment process:	***The Host Organisation is responsible for processing the applications received for this opportunity and applications will be processed as follows:*** Online interview of shortlisted candidate(s) - dates to be confirmed.