

**Psychology Undergraduate Research Experience
(PURE)**

Title of Project	Child Mental Health in Disasters Workforce Project
Supervisor	Dr Emily Macleod
Supervisor Contact Details	Emily.macleod@anu.edu.au
Project Background	<p>When disaster strikes, children are one of the most vulnerable groups to mental health impacts. Recent disasters in Australia have highlighted several gaps in support services for children and families in disaster contexts. There is a paucity of research or policy relating to best-practice for supporting children's wellbeing in disaster contexts, particularly specific to Australia. Furthermore, existing disaster management frameworks do not cater to the specific needs of children.</p> <p>Our research aims to bridge these gaps by developing guidelines for an Australian-specific National Child Disaster Workforce Strategy, aiming to reduce the vulnerabilities children face related to disasters, aligning with broader disaster risk management objectives. The guidelines will be developed by conducting two literature reviews.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) A scoping review will identify international models for child disaster workforce strategies and evaluate these for the Australian context.2) A systematic review will draw from a socio-ecological model to identify barriers and facilitators to disaster interventions that promote child mental health and wellbeing (currently underway). <p>Research students will contribute to the systematic literature review by being supported to follow systematic methods to identify and synthesise evidence for a review. Findings from their review work will be used by the research team to develop guidelines for a National Child Disaster Workforce Strategy.</p>
Time and duration of project	Summer Session 1/1/2025 TO 31/3/2025 Expressions of interest due by 30 December 2024
Pre-requisites	D or HD average in 200 level psychology (e.g., PSYC2001, PSYC2002) and either PSYC2009 (Quantitative Methods in Psychology) or PSYC3018 (Advanced Research Methods)
Proposed Assessment	Assessment will include a written assignment (e.g., research report with a background review, review protocol, results section, conclusion), weekly log, and contribution to the literature review process via searching for studies, screening abstracts, data extraction, and data reporting.
Any additional information	The research group will meet weekly at a time to be confirmed. Expressions of interest due by 30 Dec. Project will start in 2025 week of 7 Jan and run until 31 March.
Places Available	1-4