Describing your area of research interest

The main areas which you should cover within the description of your area of research interest are listed below. You do not have to strictly adhere to the following template, but it may be useful to guide your thinking and structure your content. If applicable, you are also welcome to use alternative headings.

1. **Area** (e.g. Student attitudes to Junior Cycle subject areas);

2. A brief **description** of the research area which you are planning to explore, the background (including existing literature as appropriate) and its relevance/significance to policy, practice and/or theory;

3. The main aims of your research, including your initial **research questions** (no more than four research questions);

4. An initial discussion of potential **methodologies and instruments**;

5. If proposing to work with human participants, provide an initial discussion of **sampling** – who would be involved in the study and where?

6. **A timeline** for the research (note that the dissertation is to be ccompleted.

**Suggested Length: 500-800 words**

Please upload the description of your area of research interest to your application or email it to master.education@tcd.ie, with your application number. Please maintain and store a back-up copy for yourself.

Dr Conor Mc Guckin