

Katherine Thompson

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Education

PhD in Social, Genetic, and Developmental Psychiatry, Submission October 2023

2020- Present

King's College London, LISS-DTP funded studentship

Thesis: Social isolation from childhood to young adulthood: Identifying patterns of stability and change for a better understanding of later health and functioning, supervised by Prof Louise Arseneault & Dr Timothy Matthews

MSc Genes, Environment and Development in Psychology and Psychiatry, Distinction

2018- 2019

King's College London

Modules: Introduction to Genes, Environment and Development, Statistical Genetics, Molecular Genetics and Psychology & Psychopathology.

Thesis: Age and sex-related variability in the presentation of anxiety and depression symptoms in the GLAD study, supervised by Profs Thalia Eley & Gerome Breen

BSc Psychology, First Class Hons

2014- 2018

Loughborough University

Thesis: Exploring relationships between maternal depression and anxiety symptoms, child temperament and parenting principles in 8-to-12-month-old infants, supervised by Dr Emma Haycraft

Research – Social, Genetic & Developmental Psychiatry Centre, KCL

PhD in Social, Genetic, and Developmental Psychiatry

2020- Present

Worked on data from the Environmental Risk Longitudinal Twin Study (E-Risk) led by Prof Louise Arseneault

- Led three research projects (listed in publications below) applying cutting edge methods to test hypotheses relating to the role of social isolation in mental health problems across childhood
- Used various structural equation modelling and behavioural genetic techniques, including growth mixture modelling, latent class growth analysis, factor analysis, multinomial regression, cross-lagged panel models, random intercept cross lagged panel models, longitudinal mediation models, univariate and heterogeneity twin models, multivariate twin models with a longitudinal Cholesky decomposition, and independent pathway models
- Experience in analysing large scale rich phenotypic twin data (E-Risk N=2,232) using R Studio, Stata, and Bash
- Considered interpretation of sensitive topics, such as genetic influences on childhood social isolation
- Published peer-reviewed research in Open Access scientific journals
- Committed to the Open Science Framework by pre-registering studies, reviewing, and sharing code on GitHub: github.com/knthompson26

Research Assistant- NIHR Bioresource Centre Maudsley

2019- 2020

Worked on the Genetic Links to Anxiety and Depression (GLAD) Study, Eating Disorders Genetics Initiative (EDGI) & Covid-19 Psychiatry and Neurological Genetics (COPING) Study led by Prof Gerome Breen

- Managed NHS participant recruitment and trained ~200 NHS Trusts and services on recruitment strategies
- Daily contact with over 30,000 individuals with lived experience of clinical levels of depression and anxiety
- Large scale data management (N>20,000) and processing across multiple studies
- Contributed to participant blood and saliva sample collection

Research Assistant- Early Development in Tuberous Sclerosis Study (EDITS)

2016- 2018

Led by Dr Charlotte Tye at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience

- Conducted a battery of behavioural assessments in infants across the UK - including eye tracking, Mullen Scales of Early Learning, and the ADOS
- Trained MSc students in behavioural video coding
- Assisted with neurodevelopmental assessment and EEG at Birkbeck Baby Lab, University of London
- Supervised data collection, processing, and preliminary analysis.

Academic Teaching and Mentoring

Graduate Teaching Assistant- Introduction to Applied Statistics, KCL

2021- 2022

- Led remote practical lectures on a statistics module taught across several MSc courses across the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neuroscience
- Gave in-person lectures to a class of 50+ MSc students on topics of significance testing, group comparisons, regression models, mediation, and interaction effects

R Bootcamp

2020- 2022

- Guest lecturer on the annual R Bootcamp run by the Translational Neuropsychiatric Genomics and The Emotional Development, Interventions and Treatment Labs
- Provide theoretical and practical content on factor analysis and logistic regression, coupled with reproducible tutorials on these methods in R Markdown

SLV Mental Health Placement in Sri Lanka

2016

- Created stimulating therapeutic activities for children with special needs
- Hands-on clinical work at the National Institute of Mental Health, supporting individuals with a wide range of mental health disorders
- Shadowed a Sri Lankan Clinical Psychologist and gained cross-cultural understanding of psychiatric treatment procedures
- Taught English lessons to children and adults of all abilities

Maths Teaching at Cobden School

2015- 2016

- Created fun and educational activities to help primary school children develop mathematical problem-solving skills

Positions of Responsibility

Supervising MSc Students

2021- Present

- Statistical support for four MSc students on the Dev-PP programme for the 2021, 2022, and 2023 cohorts
- Providing one-to-one guidance with coding, analyses, and interpreting results
- Introduction to R sessions for all MSc students using E-Risk data for their theses

SGDP PhD Student Representative

2021- 2022

- Communicated queries and information between PhD students and the faculty executive committee
- Hosted early career researcher discussion panels with speakers at the SGDP
- Coordinated a buddy scheme to increase engagement and support new PhD students during COVID-19
- Campaigned for financial aid for students at the SGDP
- Organised termly social events

LISS-DTP Committee Member

2020- 2021

- Hosted academic talks from guest lectures for LISS-DTP pathway 2 PhD students
- Ran termly journal club sessions for PhD students
- Organised termly social events
- Opened communication channels between students and funding leads

Conferences and Presentations

ETADE Brain view Conference 2018: Poster presentation on the associations between developmental ability and emerging ASD traits in infants with tuberous sclerosis complex

Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Research & Development Conference 2020: Presentation on the impact of the GLAD Study in psychiatric research and clinical practice

Science Gallery London 2020: Trained gallery assistants on the GLAD Study and how to communicate genetic research on anxiety and depression to the general population

26th Biennial Meeting of the ISSBD 2022: Poster presentation on trajectories of childhood social isolation in a nationally representative cohort

Life History Research Society Conference at Oxford University 2022: Poster presentation on trajectories of childhood social isolation in a nationally representative cohort

Presentation at the SGDP Centre Annual Seminar 2021, 2022, 2023

International Convention of Psychological Science 2023: Poster presentation Do Children with ADHD Symptoms Become Socially Isolated? Longitudinal within-Person Associations in a Nationally Representative Cohort

European Psychiatric Association Paris Congress 2023: Oral presentation Do Children with ADHD Symptoms Become Socially Isolated? Longitudinal within-Person Associations in a Nationally Representative Cohort

European Social Science Genetics Network 2023: The overlap between social isolation and mental health symptoms: Longitudinal independent pathway model in a nationally representative cohort

Qualifications and Training

- Samaritans Training: Conversations with Vulnerable People
- Venepuncture Training Certified: Annie Barr Health Group
- LISS-DTP Introduction to Qualitative Research Programme
- Growth Modelling in Mplus with Chris Stride
- Writing workshops on communication with non-academic audiences, clear and concise academic writing, and creating impact and engagement for your research workshop
- Introduction to Structural Equation Modelling and Longitudinal SEM with CenterStat
- Twin Research and Human Genetics at VU University of Amsterdam
- International Statistical Genetics Workshop for Human Complex Traits at University of Colorado Boulder
- Welcome Genome Campus: Longitudinal studies conference and training
- Mental Elf Social Media Training

Funding and Awards

- London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership (LISS DTP) studentship ESRC 2020
- SGDP Centre PhD Student Travel Grant 2022 & 2023
- EPA 2023 Congress Travel Grant
- ESSGN 2023 Conference Travel Grant
- Maudsley 2016 Grant for Samutthana Practical and Theoretical Mental Health Training in Sri Lanka

Publications

First author papers

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2021). Age and sex-related variability in the presentation of generalized anxiety and depression symptoms. *Depression and Anxiety*, 38, 1054–1065. <https://doi.org/10.1002/da.23213>

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2022). Trajectories of childhood social isolation in a nationally representative cohort: Associations with antecedents and early adulthood outcomes. *JCPP Advances*, 2(2), e12073. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcv2.12073>.

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2023). Do children with ADHD symptoms become socially isolated? Longitudinal within-person associations in a nationally-representative cohort. *JAACAP Open*. (Accepted/In Press) <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaacop.2023.02.001>

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2023). The overlap between social isolation and mental health problems: a longitudinal behavioural genetic analysis in the E-Risk cohort. (In Prep)

Collaborations

Peel, A. J. et al., (2021). Comparison of depression and anxiety symptom networks in reporters and non-reporters of lifetime trauma in two samples of differing severity. *Journal of Affective Disorders Reports*, 6, 100201. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadr.2021.100201>.

Holt, H. et al., (2021). Risk factors for developing COVID-19: a population-based longitudinal study (COVIDENCE UK). *Thorax*. <https://doi.org/10.1136/thoraxjnl-2021-217487>

Davies, M. R. et al., (2021). Comparison of symptom-based versus self-reported diagnostic measures of anxiety and depression disorders in the GLAD and COPING cohorts. *Journal of Anxiety Disorders*, 102491. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.janxdis.2021.102491>

Young, K. S. et al., (2022). Depression, anxiety and PTSD symptoms before and during the COVID-19 pandemic in the UK. *Psychological Medicine*, 1–31. <http://doi.org/10.1017/S0033291722002501>

Rayner, C. et al., (2022). Patient characteristics associated with retrospectively self-reported treatment outcomes following psychological therapy for anxiety or depressive disorders - a cohort of GLAD Study participants. *BMC Psychiatry*, 22(1), 719. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12888-022-04275-6>

Bryan, B. T. et al., (2022). Loneliness in the workplace: a mixed method systematic review and meta-analysis. *Psychological Bulletin*. (Under Review)

Hunjan, A. K. et al., (2022). Association of Polygenic Scores for Childhood Body Mass Index, Anorexia Nervosa and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder with Food Preferences. *Behavior Genetics*. (Under Review)

Thériault-Couture, F. et al., (2023). Child Cognitive Functioning and Dual Trajectories of Bullying Behaviors and Conduct Problems: A Population-Based Cohort Study. (In Prep)

Bryan, B. T. et al., (2023). Adolescent loneliness and employment outcomes in young adulthood. (In Prep)

Skelton, M. et al., (2023). Genetics of current depression and anxiety symptoms and functional impairment in the GLAD Study. (In Prep)

Morneau-Vaillancourt, G. et al., (2023). The genetic structure of anxiety and depressive disorders. (In Prep)

Bright, S. et al., (2023). Sociodemographic, mental, and physical health factors associated with participation within re-contactable mental health cohorts: an investigation of the GLAD Study. (In Prep)

Morneau-Vaillancourt, G. et al., (2023). Developmental trajectories of peer problems and prosocial behaviours: associations with anxiety and depression in adulthood. (In Prep)

Other media

IoPPN Media (2023). Place2Be's Let's Connect Children's Mental Health Week: How does social isolation impact mental health? [Video interview]. Retrieved from

twitter.com/KingsIoPPN/status/1623284059345494023

O'Brien, P. & IoPPN Media (2022). Social isolation in childhood is associated with ADHD symptoms and loneliness in young adulthood [News article]. Retrieved from

kcl.ac.uk/news/new-research-finds-social-isolation-in-childhood-is-associated-with-adhd-symptoms-and-loneliness-in-young-adulthood

Thompson, K. N. (2022). Trajectories of Social Isolation [Blog post]. Retrieved from

blogs.kcl.ac.uk/editlab/2022/05/12/trajectories-of-social-isolation/

IoPPN Media (2022). Mental Health Awareness Week: New research today has explored the effects of social isolation in childhood. [Video interview]. Retrieved from

twitter.com/KingsIoPPN/status/1524738860688842752

Bishop, E & Thompson, K. N. (2020). Social media and mental health [Blog post]. Retrieved from

blogs.kcl.ac.uk/editlab/2020/02/10/social-media-and-mental-health/