

## **UiOHF-Children and Conceptions of Childhood in History**

### ***Organisation, leadership, strategy and resources***

This excellent research group has existed since 2000. The group is well-consolidated. It has a clear organisational structure, a well-defined profile, an active international network and a wide range of high-profile research and publication activities, funded by, among other sources, two RCN grants (a postdoc 2003–2006 and collective project 2013–16). This group seems to have developed from a more loosely organised research network into a full-scale research programme as a result of RCN funding from 2013.

### ***Research production and quality***

The research group has excellent production, published mainly in international channels. Monographs and book chapters have been published with leading publishers in the field, as well as articles in mainly Scandinavian journals. Many publications are in the pipeline. Only five of the eight submitted publications concern childhood, but they all attest to first-class scholarship.

### ***Recruitment and training***

There has been international recruitment of a postdoc and two PhD students, and there is a good blend of junior and senior scholars. No information has been provided about future plans for recruitment.

### ***Networking***

The group has an excellent and comprehensive international network, involving leading scholars in the field as well as individual international contacts. The research group proper involves members from the USA, Scandinavia, Germany, Belgium and the UK.

### ***Impact on teaching***

The research group has a good impact on teaching. A course on the History of Childhood has been taught, and MA students take part in the seminars. The research is deemed relevant to BA, MA and PhD students, but the details of this impact are not described.

### ***Overall assessment***

This is an excellent research group. The external funding has clearly been exploited to the full, yielding excellent research and a strong international research network. Even without overarching conclusions across the projects involved, and despite the wide chronological span, the shared focus on children is clearly fruitful and there is a potential to expand lines of inquiry across periods and projects – not least with regard to the role of discipline.

### ***Feedback and comments***

This research group is clearly highly capable and prolific. It includes scholars from the fields of history of ideas, theology, history, social history, literature and media. It might be worthwhile to explore disciplinary differences in the approach to childhood in greater depth. The publications are of an international standard but there are no articles in internationally

leading journals. Publications in high-profile journals may be a way of augmenting the scholarly reach and influence of the group.