



Dr Aurélien Frick

Leverhulme Early Career Fellow
 School of Psychology and Neuroscience, University of St Andrews, United Kingdom

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Academic Appointments

Sept 2023-
Aug 2026

Leverhulme Early Career Research Fellow
 University of St Andrews, United Kingdom
 Mentor: Prof. Amanda Seed

Role: Principal Investigator of the project “Audience Effects on Children’s Cognitive Control”, funded by the Leverhulme Trust. The project examines how the presence of others modulates the engagement of cognitive control across development, integrating developmental and comparative approaches. Responsibilities include experimental design, project leadership, data collection coordination, statistical analysis, and dissemination of findings.

Feb 2022-
Sept 2023

Postdoctoral Researcher
 University of Liège, Belgium
 Supervisors: Dr Christine Bastin et Dr Emma Delhayé

Role: Contributed to a research programme on the neuropsychology of ageing involving MRI data collection with patients and older adults, behavioural and neuroimaging analyses, manuscript preparation, and presentation of findings at international conferences.

Nov 2020-
Feb 2022

Career interruption due to COVID-19 pandemic travel restrictions

Recipient of the Shui-Mu Postdoctoral Fellowship at Tsinghua University (China). The fellowship could not be taken up due to international travel restrictions. During this period, remote collaborations were established and the first study on social presence effects on cognitive control was developed with collaborators from Tsinghua University and the University of Tours.

Education

October 2020

PhD in Psychology
 University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom
 Supervisors: Dr. Nicolas Chevalier and Prof. Maria Brandimonte

Dissertation: « *Understanding autonomous behaviours in children: An investigation of self-directed cognitive control development* »

September 2016

M.A. Cognitive Science
 University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

June 2013

B.A. Psychology
 University of Tours, France

Grants and awards

± external funding

±2026	<p>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship (MSCA-PF, Global) European Commission (Horizon Europe) Principal Investigator (PI) Budget: ~£360k (36 months)</p>
±2025	<p>JSPS International Fellowship for Research in Japan (Standard) - <i>declined</i> Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Japan Principal Investigator (PI) Budget: ~£46k (24 months)</p>
2024	<p>Glasgow Crucible 2024 Seed Funding University of Glasgow, United Kingdom Co-Investigator with Dr Dan Fisher et Dr Emma Lawlor Budget: £2k (12 months)</p>
±2023	<p>Leverhulme Early Career Research Fellowship Leverhulme Trust, United Kingdom Principal Investigator (PI) Budget: ~£92k (36 months)</p>
2020	<p>ShuiMu Postdoctoral Fellowship - <i>declined</i> Tsinghua University Principal Investigator (PI) Budget: £70k (24 months)</p>
2017-2019	<p>Research Support Grant University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom Budget: ~£2k (12 months)</p>
2016-2019	<p>PhD Scholarship Suor Orsola Benincasa University, Italy Budget: ~£34k (36 months)</p>

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles = 19

First-author articles = 13

Co-first author articles = 2

Q1 journals = 18, Q2 journals = 1

*Indicates equal contribution

1. Frick, A., Bouazzaoui, B., Mille, J., Angel, L., Borella, E., Fay, S., Ferrandez, V., Pinard, F., Vanneste, S., & Tacconat, L. Relative contribution of associative memory and working memory to subjective organization in aging. (In press). *Memory*.
2. Frick, A., McEwen, E. S., Seed, A. M. Chimpanzees' working memory is not affected by the presence and activity of zoo visitors. (2026). *Animal Cognition*, 29(7).

3. Chevalier, N., & Frick, A. (2025). Neural Oscillatory Markers of Voluntary Task Switching: Proactive Engagement of Self-Directed Control in Children and Adults. *Developmental Science*, 28(6), e70073. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.70073>
4. Frick, A., Belletier, C., Tan, W., Ning, M., Zhou, Q., Christie, S.*, & Camos, V*. The effects of an unfamiliar experimenter on proactive and reactive control in children. (2025). *Scientific Reports*, 15(1), 5860. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-89193-9>
5. Frick, A. You are here! Rethinking children's executive function in the presence of others. (2024). *Child Development Perspectives*, 9(2), 116-125. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdep.12533> (top 10 most-cited article in 2024, *Child Development Perspectives*)
6. Décaillet, M.*, Frick, A.*, Lince, X., Gruber, T., & Denervaud, S. (2024). Variation in pedagogy affects overimitation in children and adolescents. *Journal of experimental child psychology*, 241, 105862. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2024.105862>
7. Frick, A., & Chevalier, N. (2023). A first theoretical model of self-directed cognitive control development. *Journal of Cognition and Development*, 24(2), 191-204. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15248372.2022.2160720>
8. Frick, A., Besson, G., Salmon, E., & Delhay, E. (2023). Perirhinal cortex is associated with fine-grained discrimination of conceptually confusable objects in Alzheimer's disease. *Neurobiology of Aging*, 130, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neurobiolaging.2023.06.003>
9. Frick, A., Fay, S., Bouazzaoui, B., Sauzéon, H., Angel, L., Vanneste, S., & Tacconat, L. (2023). The respective contribution of cognitive control and working memory to semantic and subjective organization in aging. *Psychology and Aging*, 38(5), 455. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pag0000752>
10. Eon Duval, P., Frick, A., & Denervaud, S. (2023). Divergent and Convergent Thinking across the Schoolyears: A Dynamic Perspective on Creativity Development. *Journal of Creative Behavior*, 57(2), 186-198. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jocb.569>
11. Frick, A., Wright, H. R., Fay, S., Vanneste, S., Angel, L., Bouazzaoui, B., & Tacconat, L. (2022). The protective effect of educational level varies as a function of the difficulty of the memory task in ageing. *European Journal of Ageing*, 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10433-022-00724-z>
12. Frick, A., Wright, H. R., Witt, A., & Tacconat, L. The underlying processes of episodic memory development: From a unique contribution of representation to the increasing use of semantic organization supported by cognitive control. *Cognitive Development*, 63, 101217. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cogdev.2022.101217>
13. Frick, A., Brandimonte, M. A., & Chevalier, N. (2022). Understanding autonomous behaviour in children: Exploring the contributions of context-tracking and task selection to self-directed control development. *Developmental Science*, 25(4), e13222. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.13222>
14. Frick, A.*, Schleihauf, H.*, Satchell, L. P., & Gruber, T. (2021). Carry-over effects of tool functionality and previous unsuccessfulness increase overimitation in children. *Royal Society Open Science*, 8, 201373. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.201373>
15. Frick, A., Brandimonte, M. A., & Chevalier, N. (2020). Disentangling the respective contribution of task selection and task execution to self-directed cognitive control development. *Child Development*, 92(4), 1309-1324. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.13479>

16. Frick, A., Brandimonte, M. A., & Chevalier, N. (2019). Voluntary task switching in children: Switching more reduces the cost of task selection. *Developmental Psychology*, *55*(8), 1615–1625.
<https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0000757>
17. Gruber, T., Frick, A., Hirata, S., Adachi, I., & Biro, D. (2019). Spontaneous categorization of tools based on observation in children and chimpanzees. *Scientific Reports*, *9*(1), 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-54345-1>
18. Gruber, T., Deschenaux, A., Frick, A., & Clément, F. (2019) Group membership influences more social identification than social learning or overimitation in children. *Child Development*, *90*(3), 728-745.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.12931>
19. Frick, A., Clément, F., & Gruber, T. (2017). Evidence for a sex effect during overimitation: boys copy irrelevant modelled actions more than girls across cultures. *Royal Society Open Science*, *4*(12), 170367.
<https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.170367>

Invited Talks

June 2026	University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom (scheduled)
January 2026	Université of St Andrews, United Kingdom
June 2025	University of Clermont-Auvergne, France
October 2020	University of Tours, France
June 2020	Tsinghua University, China

Conference Presentation (excluding posters)

October 2025	Scottish Primate Research Group Meeting Ezell, United Kingdom
September 2024	BPS Developmental Psychology Section Annual Conference 2024 Glasgow, United Kingdom
March 2023	2 nd Edition of the Recollection, Novelty and Familiarity Conference Liège, Belgium
August 2022	22 nd Edition of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology Lille, France
May 2020	Culture Conference 2021 Stirling, United Kingdom
August 2017	7 th European Federation for Primatology Meeting Strasbourg, France

Academic Service

Conference organisation

March 2023 2nd Edition of the Recollection, Novelty and Familiarity Conference
Liège, Belgium

Peer reviewer

- Journal articles (n = 29): *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology* (5), *Behavioural Brain Research* (3), *Behavioral Research Methods* (2), *Developmental Science* (2), *Journal of Comparative Psychology* (2), *Cognition* (1), *Developmental Review* (2), *Journal of Cognition and Development* (1), *Psychology and Aging* (2), *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology* (2), *Social Development* (1), *Memory & Cognition* (1), *Acta Psychologica* (1), *Humanities & Social Sciences Communications* (1), *Journal of Cognition* (1).
- Grants (n = 1): Agence National de la Recherche (France)

Teaching and Supervision

Teaching

2026	Guest Lecturer (1 Lecture + Practical), BSc in Psychology, Developmental Psychology (PN3033) University of St Andrews, United Kingdom
2024	Guest Lecturer (2 lectures), MSc Developmental Science, Developmental Science 1 (PSYL11103) University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom
2024	Guest Lecturer (2 lectures) BSc in Psychology, Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Childhood (PSYL10135) University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom
2023	Guest Lecturer (2 lecture), BSc in Psychology, Cognitive Development: Theoretical and Clinical Approaches (PSYC5860-1) University of Liège, Belgium
2018	Tutor, BSc in Psychology, Introduction to Psychology University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Supervision

2025	Undergraduate dissertation co-supervised (with Prof. Amanda Seed): Rhian Leverage, Jacob Yule, Angela Goodall University of St Andrews, United Kingdom
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