

University of Bedford

Primary Research Conference.

The second annual Primary Research Conference was held on the 9th June at Polehill and was attended by over 220 primary BEd and PGCE students. 23 final year BEd and PGCE students presented their dissertation and research assignment findings to their peers and tutors in a series of seminars during the morning. These ranged from *Evaluating the synthetic phonic approach to early reading* to *Young carers in the primary school* and were very well received by both staff and students, particularly those who will be writing their dissertations in the next academic year (I'm still receiving emails in praise of the day a week after the event!)

The event was sponsored by ASPE (the Association for the Study of Primary Education) who publish the international journal *Education 3-13* and, as a result of the conference, will be publishing a special issue to showcase the work of emergent researchers, with 10 of the presentations chosen for inclusion.

The post-lunch session saw an inspirational lecture from guest speaker Sue Cowley to the graduating students, whilst other undergrads, inspired by the presentations from the morning, busied themselves preparing outline proposals for their own dissertations to 'pitch' to a team of tutors at the end of the day.

Full list of presentations:

Trialling an Outdoor Learning Trail: Why a Maths Trail? **Lyndsey Pinel**

Exploratory talk to improve mathematical understanding for Y4 **Susan Rabel**

The impact that specific drama strategies have upon underachieving year four children's writing
Melissa Dalby

The effectiveness of interactive PC-based strategy games within KS2 history **Rachel Godfrey**

Assessing the ability of left-handers in writing and mark-making during the EYFS **Catherine Hayden**

The teaching of science in an outdoor learning environment **Anna Morgan**

The extent to which role play supports the development of language in EYFS EAL children in terms of speaking and listening skills **Natalie Guilfoyle**

Examining the views and attitudes that people hold towards the Government's National Healthy Schools Programme **James Potheroe**

Young carers in the primary school **Cassie Swepson**

Teaching and learning of a second language in a Foundation Stage classroom **Sarah Jarvis**

Peer-assessment as a method of formative assessment within science **Ellie Mangold**

Museums as learning environments **Amy Beresford**

The role of talk in enabling mathematical thinking **Holly Hutchins**

Use of ICT to improve the planning, performing and evaluating process within a sequence of gymnastics lessons **Siobhan Brooker**

What strategies can be used to teach Year 3 Spanish? **Adam Gross**

Evaluating the synthetic phonic approach to early reading **Zoe Watts**

Does film improve the quality of and attitude towards creative writing for a group of three lower ability year three boys? **James Keetch**

Can Reflective Storytelling be a Significant Educational Pedagogy in Key Stage Two? **Natalie Keeble**

Key stage one children's relational understanding in mathematics **Kelly O'Brien**

Teachers' views and attitudes to using ICT in support learning and teaching in History and Geography **Sarah Allen**

How effective is Makaton® as a tool for supporting talk, through play, for children who have EAL in the Foundation Stage? **Danielle Barnes**

Implementing 'Talk for Writing' in a Y4 class **Jessica Mallett**