



# Poverty, Inequality and Educational Attainment: what difference does local collaboration make?

One-day conference

**7 July 2016**

**10am-3.30pm**

**Keele Hall, Keele University, Staffordshire, ST5 5BG**

## Speakers

**Professor Meg Maguire**, Kings College London

*'London Calling: Accounting for improved performance in the global city'*

**Tristram Hunt**, MP Stoke-on-Trent Central

*'Local solutions for local problems: Bridging the attainment gap in Stoke-on-Trent and beyond'*

**Dr Chrissie Rogers**, Aston University

*'Re-humanising education and intellectual disability: a care-full proposal'*

**Jennifer Lomas**, Stoke-on-Trent City Council

*'Overcoming Barriers to Learning –Challenging low expectations, achievement and progress in an area of deprivation'*

**Sharon Bates**, Head of Mill Hill Primary School, Stoke-on-Trent

*'Through inspiration to aspiration and success: learning for all, within and beyond the curriculum'*

**Professor Farzana Shain**, **Dr Laura Watt**, Keele University and **Dr Ruth Dann**, Manchester Metropolitan University

*'Primary schools, education reform and educational attainment: case studies from Stoke-on-Trent'*

Conference fee: £50.00

Register [here](#)

Keele Conference website: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/sspp/research/publicpolicy/researchprojects/raisingattainmentatks1/>

ASPE website: <http://www.aspe-uk.eu/conferences.asp#2016>

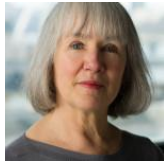
## Programme

09.30	<b>Registration</b>	Music performance from Waterside Primary School Choir
10.00	<b>Conference opening</b>	Professor Trevor McMillan, Vice Chancellor, Keele University
10.10	<b>Welcome</b>	Paul Latham, Chair of ASPE
10.15	<b>Prof Meg Maguire</b>	'London Calling: Accounting for improved performance in the global city'
10.45	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	
11.00	<b>Coffee</b>	
11.15	<b>Jennifer Lomas</b>	'Overcoming Barriers to Learning –Challenging low expectations, achievement and progress in an area of deprivation'
11.45	<b>Dr Chrissie Rogers</b>	'Re-humanising education and intellectual disability: a care-full proposal'
12.30	<b>Lunch</b>	
13.15	<b>Prof Farzana Shain. Dr Ruth Dann, Dr Laura Watt</b>	'Primary schools, education reform and educational attainment: case studies from Stoke-on-Trent'
13.45	<b>Sharon Bates</b>	'Through inspiration to aspiration and success: learning for all, within and beyond the curriculum'
14.15	<b>Coffee</b>	
14.30	<b>Tristram Hunt</b>	"Local solutions for local problems: Bridging the attainment gap in Stoke-on-Trent and beyond"
15.00	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	
15.15	<b>Final panel discussion</b>	

**\*Programme subject to change**

## Speaker Biographies

### **Professor Meg Maguire - Professor of Sociology of Education, Kings College London**



Meg Maguire taught for many years in London schools, including a period as an acting headteacher. Her research interests include education policy and practice, social justice issues, the life and work of school-teachers, teacher education and the challenges of inner-city schooling. She is Professor of Sociology of Education in the Department of Education and Professional Studies at King's College London, UK. Her most recent book *Ethics and Education Research* (Sage, 2014) is co-written with Rachel Brooks and Kitty te Riele. She is lead editor for the *Journal of Education Policy*.

### **Dr Chrissie Rogers - Senior Lecturer in Sociology, Aston University**



Chrissie graduated from Essex with her PhD (ESRC) in Sociology (2004) and then secured an ESRC post-doctoral fellowship (Cambridge). She subsequently published a monograph *Parenting and Inclusive Education* in 2007. Chrissie has completed research in developing a care ethics model of disability which is published as *Intellectual Disability and Being Human: a care ethics model*. She recently secured a Leverhulme Trust fellowship to carry out research titled 'Care-less Spaces: Prisoners with learning difficulties and their families'. Chrissie's research spans mothering, intellectual disability, 'insider research', 'inclusion', intimacy and sociology of education. She is currently writing in the area of women in the academy, and has also just started interviewing non-biological mothers who have adult 'children' with a range of learning, social and emotional difficulties.

### **Jennifer Lomas - Senior Education Improvement Advisor**



Jen has recently joined Stoke on Trent Local Authority as a Senior Education Improvement Advisor. Prior to taking this post Jen was the Head Teacher at Whitfield Valley Primary Academy and also has extensive experience of leadership in Stoke on Trent Special Schools including leading the former Heathfield Special School to Outstanding. Jen is particularly interested in promoting aspirations and outcomes for vulnerable groups of young people particularly disadvantaged children and children with a special educational need. Jen is currently leading on the development of a Stoke on Trent Assessment tool for pupils with Additional Needs.

### **Tristram Hunt - MP Stoke-on-Trent Central**



Tristram Hunt has been the Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent Central since 2010. He has served on a number of committees including the political and constitutional reform select committee, the joint committee on the Draft House of Lords Reform Bill 2011-12 and the works of art. Between October 2013 and September 2015, Tristram was Shadow Secretary of State for Education. Prior to being elected as an MP, he was a historian and broadcaster. He is the author of *The English Civil War: At First Hand* and the critically acclaimed *Building Jerusalem: The Rise and Fall of the Victorian City* and a regular history broadcaster. He is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

### **Sharon Bates - Head Teacher Mill Hill Primary**



Born and brought up in Stoke-on-Trent, Sharon is passionate about ensuring that children across our city gain the highest standard of education. Sharon qualified as a teacher in 1994, moving quickly into middle and then senior leadership. She then became a consultant, specialising in teaching and learning, creativity and leadership development across the primary and secondary sectors. Having worked on national education programmes, she has extensive teaching and leadership experience and specialist knowledge and understanding of developing curriculum models and brokering educational partnership programmes which promote collaborative working within and across schools. This experience underpins her philosophy as Head Teacher, since, 2013, of Mill Hill Primary, a school within the City Learning Trust.

**Professor Farzana Shain -  
Professor of Sociology of  
Education, Keele University**



Farzana is Professor in the School of Social Sciences and Public Policy and the Director of the Research Centre for Social Policy at Keele University. She has researched and written extensively on the broad theme of educational inequalities and she currently leads the Stoke City Council funded project on 'Raising attainment at KS1 in Stoke-on-Trent'. Farzana's most recent book *Neoliberalism and Education: Re-articulating Social Justice and Inclusion* is coedited with Kalwant Bhopal. She is also the author of *The Schooling and Identity of Asian Girls* and *The New Folk Devils: Muslim boys and Education in England*. In January 2017, Farzana will take up a 22 month Leverhulme Trust funded Research Fellowship.

**Dr Laura Watt - Research  
Associate, Keele University**



Laura was awarded her PhD in social statistics from the University of Manchester in 2013. Since then she has been employed on research projects at Manchester, Essex and Keele Universities. At the University of Essex she was employed by the Church of England on a project investigating factors that influence church growth. At Keele University she is involved in a research project funded by Stoke City Council on strategies to improve attainment levels in primary schools, as well as teaching quantitative research methods at postgraduate level. She is also honorary research associate at the University of Manchester where she continues her research on intimate relationships, in particular exploring social and psychological factors in partner selection

**Dr Ruth Dann - Principal  
Lecturer at Manchester  
Metropolitan University**



Ruth completed her PhD at Southampton University, taught in primary education and lectured at Keele University before moving to MMU. She is now Principal Lecturer with responsibility for co-ordinating Research and Knowledge Exchange. Her research interests relate to assessing pupil progress in the primary classroom, particularly pupils' own role in assessment. In addition to the research project with Keele University, on Raising Achievement in Key Stage one in Stoke-on-Trent she is funded by the Association for the Study of Primary Education to "Build Research into Primary Schools". She is chair of governors at a Staffordshire primary school which is Ofsted "outstanding".



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