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CfLaT NEWSLETTER

Community for Learning and Teaching

CfLaT Headlines

Karen Laing, Lucy Tiplady and Liz Todd will soon be inviting people to take part in a seminar about UK policy to prevent Early School Leaving, as part of the Horizon Europe SCIRE-ARLY project. If you are interested in this area and feel you have something to contribute, do get in touch!

CfLaT visitor and PhD student, Gabriela Heck, now returned to Brazil, recently took part in

an internationvirtual al , virt discussion inclusion science.



https://www.kcl.ac.uk/events/inclusion-instem-education-and-informal-spacesreflections-on-science-capital

Debbie Ralls is currently on a research trip to Brazil, where her activities include giving a lecture on participatory mapping at Rio de Janeiro State University.



Karen Laing recently travelled to Berlin for the annual meeting of the European Educational Research Association as co-convener of the Research Partnerships in Education Network (N15). Much of the time was spent planning the ECER conference which this year will be in Glasgow. Watch this space for updates!



Debbie Ralls has coauthored a chapter with young people in Routledges's new 'Handbook of Children and Young People's

Participation', All are welcome at the online book launch (19 June, 12noon) to celebrate the transformative nature of child participation and the involvement of young people in the co-writing process. Register via event-brite: https://tinyurl.com/5afvb57y

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May 2023

Issue 45

CfLaT gets ready for the next 20 years

After the pandemic years, and prompted by changes in the University research landscape, we've been asking ourselves, 'What is it that CfLaT does and stands for?' The answer to this question will inspire us beyond our 20th birthday, which we celebrate this year.

So far, we have produced the text below: CfLaT is a multi-disciplinary community of local, national and international researchers, students and practitioners creating, sharing and using knowledge together with the aim of making a positive difference for



organisations, children, families and communities. We have a 20 year history of educational research into areas such as educational fairness and justice, innovative pedagogies, and professional learning and practices.

CfLaT members undertake collaborative, and often co-designed research in order to take action together in order to engage stakeholders and create sustainable change. We recognise that everyone, including children and young people, have expertise and knowledge in this regard, and that knowledge is created together in a relational, mutually respectful way, and can be shared and used in a multitude of ways in order to make change.

Karen Laing, who is leading this collaborative definition, invites you to join in, saying, 'Do let me know what you think, and what else we should be saying and feel free to modify/ discuss/ add to the text by return email.'

Look out for activities and events, including return of the CfLaT Research Showcase. To join the discussion: k.j.c.laing@newcastle.ac.uk.

FREE EVENT: SCHOOL SPACES -WHAT DO STUDENTS NEED & WANT?

Although many of the Collaborative ReDesign with Schools (CoReD) case studies focus on how school teachers use educational space, the CoReD tools can work well with children and young people. Ulrike Thomas and Pam Woolner invite you to a workshop to explore this use.

We will be considering if the schools we have, and the new ones we are building, fulfil the learning and wellbeing needs of children and young people. What approaches enable their voices to be heard in discussions of school infrastructure, locally, nationally and internationally? Most excitingly, we will be connecting live with the Director and students of Rainha Santa Isabel School in Portugal to find out how they used the Survey on Students' School Spaces (S3S) tool to improve their school environment. We will then hear how the same survey tool was used by students in Ponteland to evaluate their brand new school.

Where: 6.19b The Henry Daysh Building Newcastle University. When: June 27th 2023, 3.30pm - 6p.m (tea & cake from 3.30pm, with the workshop starting at 4pm).

To book your place: https://forms.office.com/e/Hz0CNg364E.



CfLaT welcomes colleagues from **EEF Thailand**

On Monday 24th April we welcomed a delegation of six Thai colleagues from the Equitable Education Fund (EEF) based in Bangkok, who work to provide financial support for children and youth who are in greatest need, reduce educational inequality by forming partnership with different groups and conduct systematic research promote creativity, metacognition and to support and develop teachers' innovative pedagogy in our teaching **effectiveness.** The team were and our ITT programme, and how we CCE (Creativity, Culture and Edu- North East. cation) with whom the University has collaborated closely for many vears.

There were inspirational sessions from David Leat, Heather Smith, Susan

gates a taste of how we integrate and Tyne Combined Authority.



spending a week working with the collaborate with partners across the

O'Hagan and Damian Groark, and key-Alison Whelan and Kim Cowie from notes from Jane Robinson, University CfLaT devised an exciting timetable Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Engagement and For

A social lunch gave us an opportunity to see the ENACT and Linguacuisine apps in action in the digital kitchen and find out more about the wide-ranging expertise within the School of Education. The day was rounded off with a fantastic meal at Blackfriars Restau-



more information: with Katy Milne, one of the CCE pro- Place, and Adrian Dougherty, Head of sonWhelan2@newcastle.ac.uk or gramme managers, to give the dele- Public Sector Innovation at North of https://www.eef.or.th/eef/ and https://wwww.eef.or.th/eef/ and <a href="https://www.eef.or.t www.creativitycultureeducation.org/

PORTUGUESE SCHOOL DESIGN CONFERENCE

investment in school buildings: find interesting and even inspiring. https://www.uc.pt/ceis20/redeescolar-20-anos/

António Rochette and Luís Alcoforado, central

with

Carolina region providing presentation about their part The

in the CoReD plans, project. Taking photoplace over two graphs days in Viseu, a and key

from speaking at an event bring- academia, educational practice and guese. To accommodate the language ing together local authorities, policy. The first day opened with a school leaders and politicians to speech by Secretary for State for Eduevaluate 20 years of Portuguese cation, which the audience seemed to

A central draw was the exhibition featuring the best school buildings, both It was organised by CoReD's Portu- new builds and refurbishments, from guese partners, Carolina Coelho, each of the 100 municipalities of the

a of Portugal.

town in the in- information, including the money in- delight at the school - and Pam had to terior of Portu- vested by the local government and assure them that not all British schools gal, the event the EU, made great reading - even to are quite like this!

Pam Woolner has just returned featured panellists and speakers from someone who doesn't speak Portu-



issue, there was simultaneous translation -of Pam's talk into Portuguese and of the other speakers into English for Pam. As requested, her contribution was a reflection on innovation in design and educational practices evident at Jesmond Gardens Primary School, Hartlepool. Many delegates expressed

Counting the Cost of the School Day

was a 3 year project planned and practices that schools put into place delivered by Child Poverty Action after hearing the moving words of GRADE OFFERS? Group in partnership with Chil- their children and families. These indren North East. Liz Todd, Karen cluded: Laing, Lucy Tiplady and Ulrike . Thomas from CfLaT completed an evaluation at the end of 2022 and the final report is due to be published in the coming weeks.

As part of the project CoSD practitioners worked in schools in England, Scotland and Wales talking to children, young people and their families, as well as school staff, to find out what costs are associated with going • to school and what impact these have, particularly on families who are struggling financially. The voice of the child is central to the process.

What the CoSD project highlighted is that it is not just the typical costs that are associated with school that have financial implications and create stigma i.e. school meals and uniform; it is also the cost of the nice 'extras' school trips, dressing up days, fund raising activities, disco tickets, fruit at break time, school photographs etc. • These create cumulative costs that are putting families under increased pressure.

- Providing family disco tickets so that families with more than one sums of money
- Creating pre-payment plans for trips and providing plenty of no-
- pupils to create outfits in school
- Providing eco swap shops for uniform and



dressing up clothes

- Changing the number and timing of fundraising days and the way that donations are collected e.g. online, links to main charity web-
- Changing how school photographs are given out i.e. no longer in front of the whole class.

See: https://cpag.org.uk/cost-of -the-school-day

RESEARCH TEAS Summer 2023

CfLaT Research Teas aim to provide an informal opportunity for staff, postgraduate students and other interested parties to get together to discuss current research. They will be held in KGVI.B83.iLabLearn with tea and coffee available from 3.30pm and the session running 3.45-4.45

Wednesday 21st June 3.30-4.45pm - Students as Partners: Co-creating safe spaces and building trust - Anna Christy, Kudzaishe Chiwara, Jonathan Lee, Micha Newman, Andy Oroke, Kirijana Yogaratnam (Student Advisory Board, School of Engineering) and Dr Amina Razak (Inclusive Newcastle **Knowledge Centre).**

Inclusive Newcastle Knowledge Centre (INKC) and members of a Student Advisory Board (SAB) will share their reflections of co-creating on a project aiming to tackle degree awarding inequities at Newcastle University. The INKC Researcher and SAB will reflect on the empowerment of student voice and share processes of enabling meaningful partnership,

For further information on CfLaT research teas, if you would like to join a tea via Zoom or if you are interested in discussing some of your own research please contact Lucy.Tiplady@ncl.ac.uk.

WHAT CHANGES ABOUT UNIVERSITY Access & Participa-Cost of the School Day (CoSD) The evaluation evidenced a range of TION WITH REDUCED

Ensuring everyone has access to higher education is not only a moral right, but also crucial for universities child do not have to pay large to meet targets. Krystal Douglas-Dodd explains research and evaluation she is conducted with the Inclusive Newcastle Knowledge Centre.

Changing dressing up days to just The project used a theory of change apwearing colours or enabling the proach to understand what happens when the university reduce entrance grades for applicants from underrepresented backgrounds; how will contextual offers impact the student cohort, and what's the experience of those students when they arrive?

We conducted interviews, workshops and

analysed cohort data to understand which students are more likely to be made and accept an offer; and continue to progress academically at university.



We found both differences and similarities in offers, continuation and degree award trends between those receiving lower offers and those entering through standard entry pathways. We also found that many applicants and staff knew of contextual admissions but don't know how they work or how they are used. From workshops, some students felt that contextual offers helped to reduce the pressure to achieve high grades, but they were still felt committed to achieving highly.

Work in this area is ongoing. This research and evaluation will be published in a forthcoming paper and also form part of three upcoming conference presentations.

To find out more, please contact: krystal.douglas@newcastle.ac.uk

