

What is 'What Works Research'?

Views from research, policy and practice

Tuesday 15 November 2016, 11.00am – 4.00pm, The Great Hall, Queen's University Belfast



What is 'What works research'?

Significant cuts in funding across health, education and social services mean that it is more important than ever to make informed decisions about what we do with limited resources. **'What works research' is about making good decisions based on the best available information and using high quality methods.** It helps practitioners focus on the work that provides the greatest benefits to the public and know 'what works'. It supports policymakers to channel funding into activities that make real improvements in people's lives. It also provides researchers with methods to produce evidence that can have maximum impact on a whole range of global challenges.

There are varying levels of awareness and understanding of 'What works research'. There are also many perspectives on 'What is what works research?' Therefore this event has three main purposes:

1. Increase awareness of and demystify 'What works research.'
2. Share perspectives, experiences and methods related to 'what works research'.
3. Provide practical examples of 'What works research' in different contexts e.g., in schools, families and communities.

Registration is free but spaces are limited. To secure your place, please email David Piekaar d.piekaar@qub.ac.uk

The Children's Research Network of Ireland and Northern Ireland (CRNINI) has brought together a number of organisations advocating 'What works research'.

Children's Research Network for Ireland and Northern Ireland (CRNINI) supports the research community in Ireland and Northern Ireland by creating and maintaining an inclusive network through which 'What works research' can be supported and shared.

www.childrensresearchnetwork.org/

Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation (CESI) is an applied research centre at Queen's University Belfast committed to conducting and promoting 'What works research'.

www.qub.ac.uk/cesi

Centre for Effective Services (CES) connects policy, practice and research, helping to ensure the implementation of effective services, to improve the lives of people across the island of Ireland.

www.effectiveservices.org/

PlayBoard NI is an independent charity committed to promoting best practice in play and play work, through developing evidence based research and policy to improve the lives of children and young people in Northern Ireland.

<http://www.playboard.org/>

11.00 am – 11.20 am	Arrival and Registration
11.20 am – 11.40 am	Welcome and Introduction Dr Liam O’Hare (Chair CRNINI and Senior Research Fellow Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation)
What is What Works Research?	
11.40 am – 12.00 pm	A Research Perspective (Professor Paul Connolly, Director of Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation)
12.00 pm – 12.20 pm	A Policy Perspective (TBC)
12.20 pm – 12.40 pm	A Practitioners Perspective (TBC)
12.40 pm – 1.00 pm	An Intermediary Organisation Perspective (Nuala Doherty, Director of Centre for Effective Services)
1.00 pm – 1.10 pm	Delegate Reflections
1.10 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch
2.00 pm – 2.20 pm	A Research Network Perspective (David Kenefick, Project Manager CRNINI)
2.20 pm – 2.40 pm	A Voluntary Sector Perspective (Alan Herron, Director of Service Delivery and Development Playboard)
2.40 pm – 2.55 pm	A Community Sector Perspective 1 (Colin Neighbourhood Partnership)
2.55 pm – 3.10 pm	A Community Sector Perspective 2 (Greater Shankill Partnership)
3.10 pm – 3.30 pm	A Statutory Sector Perspective (Maurice Meehan, HSCNI)
3.30 pm – 4.00 pm	Reflections with Invited Panel (Panel Chair: Majella McCloskey Senior Manager - CES Belfast Office)
4.00 pm	Close