



Children's Participation in Schools: Network Newsletter

Welcome to the October 2024 edition of the [Children's Participation in Schools](#) Network newsletter.

This month our team have been busy in their respective work packages analysing data from primary school teachers, student teachers and teacher educators. We have presented at the Open University Conference and have been planning for an upcoming Advisory Group meeting and network seminar. We are also planning for a very exciting webinar (check the 'Events' section to find out more!)

On behalf of the Children's Participation in Schools project we hope you enjoy reading this month's newsletter.

Project Updates

- **Work Package 2:** Our research associates have been working hard analysing data collected from primary school teachers earlier this year. Their next steps will be to move on to analysing children's data. A lot of conversations are happening around potential publications – watch this space!
- **Work Package 3:** The Work Package 3 team have been involved in their first workshop with student teachers and teacher educators exploring practices that support young children's participation in schools, and how student teachers learn about them. Also, the team are working on data analysis from this and the focus groups undertaken earlier this year with these groups.
- **Work Package 4:** The Work Package 4 team are planning for an upcoming meeting with our specialist Advisory Group where we will share with them project progress as well as discussing challenges and questions we have with them. We have attended the Children's Research Centre 20th Anniversary Conference at the Open University in Milton Keynes. RA Jacqui Lewis gave a fabulous presentation titled *'Engaging and Empowering Young Children within Advisory Groups for Research: A Welsh Case Study'*.
- **Reminder: Our next network seminar will take place on November 20th from 1:30-2:45. You should have received a calendar invitation, however, do get in touch if you cannot see one. We hope to see you all there!**

Network Member Spotlight! Marianne Mannello

Assistant Director for Policy, Support and Advocacy at Play Wales.

Play Wales is the national charity for children's play.

Marianne leads on play sufficiency, children's rights, health and wellbeing and neighborhood play provision.

You can read more about Play Wales support for schools [here](#)."

Research

Whose ‘voice is anyway? The paradoxes of the participatory narrative (2021): This [paper](#) discusses some of the paradoxes found in the rhetoric of participatory research with children. Very relevant to our project methodology!

Can you hear me? Problematizing the enactment of UNCRC Article 12 in Welsh early years classrooms, exploring the challenges of ‘children’s voice’ (2023): This [paper](#) written by our PI Assoc Prof Sarah Chicken and Co-I Dr Jacky Tyrie investigates similar ideas as the current project such as teacher enactment of the UNCRC Article 12, and a child’s right to participate and give their view within the context of Welsh early years settings.

Playing & Wellbeing – A Literature Review: [PlayWales](#) have conducted a review of recent research into children’s play, social policy and practice, with a focus on Wales. Check it out [here](#).

Events & News

CREAN Webinar – Children’s Participation in Schools:

The team invite you to a webinar hosted by the [Children’s Rights European Academic Network \(CREAN\)](#) and in collaboration with the [Observatory on Human Rights and Social Justice at Swansea University](#).

The webinar will take place on the 7th November 2024 from 2:00pm–3:30pm (UK Time). Sign up [here](#)

International Child and Family Conference – University of Bristol:

The first Internal Child and Family Conference will take place in Bristol next year from the 17–19 June 2025. Registration will open soon and you can find out more about the conference [here](#).

The impacts of rights-based co-production in primary schools:

This [research seminar](#), hosted by Swansea University will take place on the 27th November and can be joined virtually.

Have you recently published a paper, report, or other document, are putting on an event, or know others that are? Get in touch with the Children’s Participation in Schools project at child.participation@uwe.ac.uk

If you have any questions, please contact us on child.participation@uwe.ac.uk



Children's
Participation
in Schools

Children's Participation in Schools

Follow us on Social Media:

Twitter: [@ChildPart](#) | Instagram: [child.participation](#)