



September Newsletter

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1. Experts gather to help research, evaluation, policy and practice work better together

Research and policy experts gathered recently to support research, evaluation, policy and practice to work more effectively together at a one day conference.

The conference was co-hosted by the Research Evaluation Policy and Practice (REPP) Project, which is managed by CDI, and the Children's Research Network for Ireland and Northern Ireland (CRNINI).

Titled *Realising Real-World Research: Research and Evaluation in Challenging Times* the event explored how research and evaluation findings in the areas of children, families and community can be translated more quickly into good policies.

Event and CDI Chairperson Dr. Suzanne Guerin said that a strong partnership between government and philanthropy has led to significant growth in research and evaluation, particularly within the children, family and community sectors.

The conference provided an opportunity for attendees to discuss how each of the elements can to work together as effectively as possible.



Read the news release [here](#)
View the presentations [here](#)
View event page [here](#)

2. 1000th child enrolls in Doodle Den

Doodle Den passed a four digit milestone this September, as the 1,000th child was welcomed onto the programme.

Aoibheann Coyne, aged 6, a student in St Brigid's Junior National School joined CDI

and her fellow Doodle Denners at a special event in Tallaght Library, which also marked UNESCO International Literacy Day (Sept 8th).

Aoibheann and her friends are eager to get started with Doodle Den and told CDI staff about how much fun the programme was going to be.

Details of a new Doodle Den website were also revealed at the event which will be publicised in the coming weeks. The website will give children opportunities to practice their literacy skills through fun games and activities.



3. Emma Freeman to lead Ante Natal to Three Initiative

Emma Freeman has commenced a new role with CDI as Antenatal to Three Initiative (ATTI) Co-ordinator.

Emma will be working with services in West Tallaght to develop networks and improved pathways of care for parents and children from antenatal to three years of age.

ATTI has developed from extensive consultation with parents and services in Tallaght West, which showed that there was a lack of coordination and knowledge of how to access services.

For more information please contact Emma at 01 414 7363 or emma@twcdi.ie.

4. Restorative Practice website launched

The Restorative Practice Strategic Forum (RPSF) has launched a new website which includes useful links, up and coming events and training dates.

You can view it at <http://www.restorativepracticesireland.ie>

RPSF promotes use of restorative approaches in schools, neighbourhoods and services. To join our restorative practice database please visit <http://www.restorativepracticesireland.ie/contact-us/>. To advertise an upcoming event, please forward the details to rp@restorativepracticesireland.ie.



5. Restorative Practices steaming ahead

RP Launch of Two Primary Schools:

St Marks Junior and Senior National Schools in Springfield will be launching as Restorative Schools on Tuesday the 14th of October. The Mayor of South Dublin County will attend at 10.30am to raise RP flags. Everyone is welcome to this celebration of the wonderful work being done.

Training of RP Trainers Courses

CDI is offering two courses this Autumn to train people to deliver RP training.

- The first is for primary and secondary teachers and schools staff and from 4.30pm – 7pm over 10 weeks from Monday the 6th of October. Details available [here](#)
- The second is for people who wish to deepen their understanding and practice of RP and to design, deliver and evaluate RP training for their own target groups. Priority will be given those working or living in Tallaght. Having undertaken RP training with CDI is an entry requirement. Contact Claire Casey more claire@twcdi.ie.



6. RP trainer Michelle Stowe

Michelle Stowe, a teacher at St Marks Community School, has established a blog and

Facebook page to share her learning and expertise on introducing and embedding RP in her school.

Michelle trained as an RP trainer with CDI in 2011 and undertook a restorative project for her Masters in Education for which she received a Distinction grade 2012.

Her research is summarised in *Transforming Educational Experience for children, parents and teachers* (CDI, 2014), which is available [here](#).

Michelle is a passionate and highly effective champion of the benefits of a restorative approach in schools and you can follow her work at on the links below.

Blog: mstowerp.wordpress.com

Facebook:

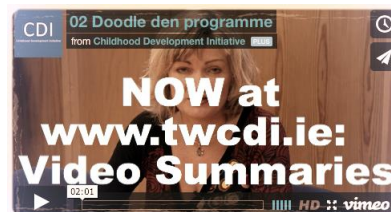
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7. Latest Blog: Connecting Community Development Work and Education

CDI is continuing to provide Restorative Practice (RP) training each month and places are available in November and December. Click [here](#) for details.

Further Information?



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