

Research School Day

BA2

02/03/20

Rationale

Research Day in School is an important element of the **ECAD5010 Module – *Researching the Learning – what, how and why am I teaching?*** The aim of the module is to **develop student teachers' research skills** by providing opportunities for them to create a questionnaire, interview questions and an observation sheet and to trial these research methods in a school (i.e. PTE2 school).

The overarching research question is 'What are learners and staff perceptions of AfL?' For the assignment, the student teachers will have to choose a particular aspect of AfL (e.g. feedback, questioning) and then **design, trial and critically evaluate their research tools**.

Before the Research Day in School the student teachers will have already designed their research tools, i.e. their questionnaire, interview questions and observation schedule, and completed an ethics form.

During the Research Day in School the student teacher should be able to carry out the following tasks:

- Distribute and collect **questionnaires** (school staff and/or pupils)
- **Interview** a group of children (from PTE2 class) and possibly some of the staff
- **Observe** a group of children (from PTE2 class)

Following the 'Research Day in School', the student teachers will **critically evaluate these research tools**. Their focus will not be on the data they collected but on the research design, i.e. the effectiveness of their research tools.

EWC Code of Conduct:

An expectation of professionalism as outlined in the EWC's code of conduct is expected from all stakeholder participants throughout the Research Day.

<https://www.ewc.wales/site/index.php/en/fitness-to-practise/code-of-professional-conduct-and-practice-pdf.html>

They are also expected to adhere to the **BERA Ethical Guidelines for Educational Research** (2018) <https://www.bera.ac.uk/publication/ethical-guidelines-for-educational-research-2018> and the **UWTSD UWTSD Research Ethics & Integrity Code of Practice**

A letter for the school to distribute to parents/guardians

Classroom-based research with student teachers

Ethical Research

Student teachers may be required to undertake small-scale classroom-based research in order to complete assignments.

The following letter should be made known to parents/guardians so that informed consent or a request to withdraw from the research being undertaken is agreed.

This school is a partner with the professional learning partnership that sits within the Athrofa at University of Wales Trinity Saint David in Carmarthen and Swansea. This school offers placements to students who are learning to be teachers. When student teachers work within the school, they are always under the supervision of the class teacher. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that as part of the University-based assessment, the student teacher will be required to evaluate classroom practice. This sometimes takes the form of a written evaluation or assessment of children's work and can also involve asking staff and children about their views. This activity does not differ from usual classroom practice.

If you would like more information about the work taking place in your child's class, please don't hesitate to ask the class teacher. If, following this discussion, you decide you don't want your child to be involved in any classroom-based evaluation undertaken by the student teachers please inform the class teacher.

If you would like more information about the initial education and training of new teachers please contact the Athrofa Professional Learning Partnership through its senior administrator, Christine Rees.

Thank you for taking time to read this information.

ECAD5010 Consent Form

Student teachers must gain the following written consent of the head teacher before trialling their research tools.

To be completed by the school:

I agree to _____ as a representative of Yr Athrofa to:

- Take photographs (Tick accordingly)
- Interview
- Take video
- Observe
- Quote school policy documents
- Questionnaires

Name of Head teacher _____ Signed _____

Name of school _____

To be completed by the student teacher:

If I am granted such permission, I agree to abide by the ethics embodied within the EWC Code of Conduct and BERA Ethical Guidelines (2018) and will not distribute any such material to audiences beyond the University authorities without their permission.

Name of student teacher: _____ Signed: _____

Student teacher UWTSD e-mail address: _____

Programme (e.g. BA Ed/PGCE Primary): _____

Date: _____