

Dr Deirdre Harvey | St Angela's College

General Biography

Deirdre is a lecturer and researcher in the School of Education, St. Angela's College, Sligo since 2008. She teaches and supervises at undergraduate (Psychology of Education, Educational Research Methods, Applied Social Sciences) and postgraduate/ Masters levels (Advanced Research and Study Skills, Dissertation). More recently, her role includes Director of Graduate Studies in Education.

A graduate of National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Dr Harvey holds a first-class BA Psychology and PhD in Psychology. She has obtained an MEd Teaching and Learning (St. Patrick's College, DCU, First Class, Mark Morgan Award Recipient). She is currently undertaking a Postgraduate Diploma in Child and Young People's Mental Health and Psychological Practice, in the University of Edinburgh.

She has publications in international journals such as Behavioural Brain Research, Physiology and Behaviour, Neurobiology of Learning and Memory and the European Journal of Special Needs Education. She regularly presents her work at national and international conferences (e.g., FENS, EBBS, ATEE, ECER, BPS, ESAI). To date, Dr Harvey has attracted funding from the Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering, and Technology, Scotens, TRex, and the Teaching Council. Within St. Angela's College, Dr Harvey has received funding through the Angela Merici fund.

As a Research in Residence, I hope to support educators in their pursuit to engage in and with research. In doing so, I am keen to make the research process as accessible and feasible as possible in their respective professional contexts. For many, research design and operationalisation can be daunting, particularly in the midst of busy workloads and wide teacher responsibilities. I am keen to support educators, particularly early researchers and small collaborative teams who wish to build and progress a research culture in their professional practices. In doing so, I wish to further strengthen my professional links with schools, particularly in the areas of wellbeing, collaboration, and professional learning. From my experience visiting schools, talking to teachers / co-operating teachers and MA/Postgraduate students, I am acutely aware of the desire of many teachers to engage in educational research yet fear, lack of research literacy and associated skills, time limitations and lack of perceived support stunt their progress. Consequently, I believe the RiRS is timely to instigate such links, support and partnerships.

I am keen to support research in the areas of psychology and education broadly. In particular, I am interested in projects into wellbeing, its respective elements and impact on the learner (primary, post-primary, further education, and adult education inclusive), teacher and/or student teachers. Other areas, but not limited, include Growth mindsets, Retrieval practice, Stress, learning and/or teaching, innovative application of psychological theory to learning/ classroom, and building learner self-efficacy.

I am also interested in further examining teacher collaboration (e.g., exploring effective modes of collaboration in a variety of school contexts, teachers understanding of and willingness to collaborate with colleagues in their educational setting and/or the wider educational community, building a culture of collaboration, teacher collaboration with the wider education community- realities, drivers, barriers, and opportunities).

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I can offer advice and support in the design of research projects. I can also guide teacher-researchers on ethical compliance and standards in the implementation of their research in educational contexts. I have extensive experience in data analysis of open and closed data and can support teacher researchers in this aspect of their work. I can also assist in the reporting and dissemination of findings (e.g., conference submission, publication, informal school reporting of findings).