

# Dr Lucy Hearne | Waterford Institute of Technology

## General Biography

My teaching and research philosophy is derived from my personal and professional journey, i.e., a mature student who qualified with an initial degree in my late 20's, to a qualified guidance practitioner and academic in higher education. I teach from a humanistic and social constructivist perspective, and I bring this approach into my collaborative work with colleagues and into my research areas. I have an inherent interest in the area of wellbeing and human development as it is central to education and career progression for individuals of all ages. Wellbeing is also a significant component of training and practicing as a guidance counsellor with individuals. I am acutely aware of its development within the post primary curriculum in recent years where the antecedents have been pastoral care work and guidance counselling work. Currently, as stated above, I am supervising a Research MA student who is researching preservice technology teachers' levels of preparedness for teaching wellbeing in post primary education when they qualify. It is a unique study and is elucidating important findings on the issue of teaching wellbeing that has implications for teacher education at Level 9 in the Irish teaching profession. I believe my professional experience in terms of course leadership on the UL guidance counselling programme, teaching of human development in UL and WIT, and my research in guidance counselling and wellbeing can make a contribution to the Research in Residence Scheme. I would welcome the opportunity to engage in applied research in a post primary setting and to work in partnership with a school and its teaching professionals who are involved in the delivery of wellbeing to students. I believe it would be a mutual and beneficial learning and developmental experience that could advance knowledge on the topic for the betterment of me as a researcher and the school community including teachers and students.