



Initial teacher education and training in Wales

Dr Jane Waters, University of Wales Trinity St David Swansea Metropolitan



Dr Jane Waters is the Head of Initial Teacher Education and Training at Swansea Met; part of the South West Wales Centre of Teacher Education. Having worked initially as a primary classroom teacher and, more recently, as director of an undergraduate Early Childhood Studies programme

she now works most closely with postgraduate students training to be teachers. Jane lectures in outdoor play and learning, early years education and the ethics of research with young children. Jane's research interests lie in early childhood education; young children's agency and voice; and young children's experiences of outdoor spaces. Current research projects include working with international colleagues to consider pedagogical intersubjectivity in early education contexts in different countries. This project is an extension of Jane's doctoral research that focussed on adult-child interaction, sustained shared thinking and the affordance of different educative spaces.

A view from the far side of the globe: Challenges and opportunities in initial teacher education and training in Wales

Standards, standards, standards... The Welsh Government has devolved responsibility for English and Welsh medium education in Wales. In response to poor international rating in the most recent PISA tables, in which Wales' rating fell behind that of the other UK countries, the education minister issued a plan for change in February 2011. The 20-point plan is tightly focused around three core objectives: literacy, numeracy and reducing the impact of poverty. Scrutiny over the quality of initial teacher education across the 3–19 age range has followed, along with higher demands for entry standards, a requirement to track trainees' literacy and numeracy skills and the imminent introduction of a new school-based post-graduate route into teaching for the highest achieving Welsh graduates. In this presentation Jane hopes to scratch the surface of the 'standards agenda' and consider double standards, tensions, challenges and opportunities for Welsh ITET providers and their school-based partners.

DATE

Monday 4 February 2013

TIME

10-11am

VENUE

TC.2.27 (A&B Meeting Room),
Faculty of Education,
The University of Waikato.

CONTACT

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