

# Websites on Research Guidance and Information

## Introduction

This is a comprehensive collection of useful websites for anyone undertaking a research investigation.

The document has been organised into four sections:

1. Advice on small research projects and action research
2. Official sites supported with government money – several are now in the National Archive\* but they are referenced here as the research observations are still valid
3. Independent sites who work closely with government agencies
4. Associations, research groups and individuals

\* When searching the National Archives it helps if you have the original URL to use in the search facility

All websites were checked during April 2011.

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# 1. Small Action Research Projects Guidance

## ActionResearch Net

<http://www.actionresearch.net/>

A source of hard-to-find significant writings on action research plus research discussions and access to other researchers' homepages. Created and maintained by Jack Whitehead.

'Action research', the encyclopaedia of informal education, Smith, M. K. (2007)

[www.infed.org/research/b-actres.htm](http://www.infed.org/research/b-actres.htm)

This article 'explores the development of some different traditions of action research and provides an introductory guide to the literature'.

## Action Research First Steps

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDVH0u4tUWo>

A ten minute video uploaded by MissMelissa73 in November 2009. This the first part of two videos and provides a good introduction to action research. It shows how the enquiry approach is closely linked to geography.

## Action Research made simple

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qg83f72\\_6Gw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qg83f72_6Gw)

A two minute overview uploaded by elifegirl on 27 April 2008.

## Centre for the Use of Research and Evidence in Education CUREE

<http://www.curee-paccts.com/>

CUREE works to support and develop effective use of research and evidence in education in order to improve practice and policy and to help raise standards. It includes an extensive publications list of research projects.

- [http://www.curee-paccts.com/resources/publications\\_a\\_z](http://www.curee-paccts.com/resources/publications_a_z) a useful section on learning and research skills
- <http://www.curee-paccts.com/learning-and-skills> CUREE has developed research tasters to help practitioners weave research findings on effective practice into their own teaching
- <http://www.curee-paccts.com/useful-links> an extensive list of links some of which are described below, and which are regularly updated

## Collaborative Action Research (CARN)

<http://www.esri.mmu.ac.uk/carnnew/index.php>

Aims to encourage and support action research projects (personal, local, national and international). Accessible accounts of action research projects and contributions to the theory and methodology of action research.

## Educational Action Research

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/09650792.asp>

Supported by Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN - see above). Published by Routledge. A fully refereed international journal concerned with exploring the dialogue between research and practice in educational settings.

## Image and Identity Research Collective ILLC

<http://iirc.mcgill.ca/>

Interdisciplinary, image-based research methodologies and artistic forms of representation for the Humanities and Social Sciences. These is much here to inspire new research methodology. Includes conference information and a rare interview video with Roger Hart on Children's World's.

[http://childhoods2005.uio.no/childhoods\\_videos/roger\\_hart/index.html](http://childhoods2005.uio.no/childhoods_videos/roger_hart/index.html)

## Research in Education (RESINED – MERS501) module

<http://www.edu.plymouth.ac.uk/resined/beginning/begresed.htm>

An up-to-date (March 2011) document to aid planning and execution of a research dissertation. Suggested outcomes are:

- Understanding of some of the broad methodological issues and ideas of research in education
- Have a clear research question (even if this eventually changes slightly)
- Have a clear idea about some of the methods that you are likely to use in responding to this question and a plan, therefore, about which other components of this website will be most useful to you
- Have begun to consider the ethical implications of your study.

The site covers action research, case studies, interviews and observation among other matters. It also features an excellent reading list to take you further.

## Jean McNiff

<http://www.jeanmcniff.com>

Jean McNiff offers an excellent, free downloadable guide to action research 'Action research for professional development' and action research thesis PDFs. See also Occasional Paper 2. A book published in 2010 is also available 'Action Research for Professional Development: concise advice for new (and experienced) action researcher's

<http://www.september-books.com/>

## 2. Official sites

### Educational Evidence Portal (eep)

<http://www.eep.ac.uk/dnn2/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx>

This website aims to provide educational evidence from a range of reputable sources using a single search. It is designed for both professional and lay people interested in education and children's services. A demonstration on how to get the most out of the portal can be accessed from the homepage. You can register for email updates by clicking the small white button in the top right hand corner.

- Search for websites either by keyword or from a list which at the moment includes 52 sites.  
<http://www.eep.ac.uk/dnn2/Searcheeep/Searchwebsites/tabid/61/Default.aspx>
- You can also search a database of articles etc. by title, author, date, subject, type or phase. It is not currently possible to search the full text of the database but this is planned for the future.  
<http://www.eep.ac.uk/dnn2/Searcheeep/Searcheeepdatabase/tabid/62/Default.aspx>
- A useful prototype research resource pathfinder tool can be found at  
<http://www.eep.ac.uk/dnn2/Abouteeep/ResearchResourcePathfinder/tabid/350/Default.aspx>

This portal was developed for DfE by NFER in collaboration with organisations in the educational evidence portal partnership and is still in the developmental stage.

### Department for Education (DfE)

<http://www.education.gov.uk/>

The main website for the UK Department for Education which was formed in May 2010. It provides free access to information on the organisation, work and recent activities of the Department. It includes links to Twitter feeds, YouTube channels and online publications, statistics and reports covering all aspects of UK educational policy and the provision of children's services. Topics covered by these include pre-school education, primary education, secondary education, teaching and teachers. The site also includes school performance tables. Materials from earlier departments such as the Department for Children, Schools and Families are covered in part. Research and statistics are at <http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics>

### Teachers' International Professional Development (TIPD)

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/learning-tipd.htm>

This DfE-funded project which ceased in March 2011 provided opportunities for teachers to experience best practice in international education by participating in short-term study visits to other countries.

### Department of Education Northern Ireland

[http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/32-statisticsandresearch\\_pg/32\\_statistics\\_and\\_research-research\\_pg.htm](http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/32-statisticsandresearch_pg/32_statistics_and_research-research_pg.htm)

Listing of research reports by project. The main vehicle for dissemination is the Research Briefing series – a concise summary is issued to accompany most published reports.

Northern Ireland Council for Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment

<http://www.ccea.org.uk>

[http://www.rewardinglearning.com/development/ks1\\_2/curriculum\\_support/curriculum\\_support.html](http://www.rewardinglearning.com/development/ks1_2/curriculum_support/curriculum_support.html)

The support materials and links give an insight into the work of CCEA and Northern Ireland issues.

Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales ACCAC now Dept of Education and Lifelong Learning and Skills

Access restricted

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/research-and-evaluation/?lang=en>

Reports since 2003 in all phases

Consortium of Institutions for Development and Research in Education in Europe (CIDREE)

<http://www.cidree.org>

CIDREE is a self-managing network of educational bodies that play a recognised national role in the field of curriculum development and/or educational research.

TDA

<http://www.tda.gov.uk/>

The Training and Development Agency for Schools (TDA) is the national agency and recognised sector body responsible for the training and development of the school workforce. It is due to change in 2012. It runs an information and research service to support the construction and dissemination of relevant research and data collection. This supports the school leaders and their development <http://www.tda.gov.uk/school-leader/school-partnerships.aspx> and <http://www.tda.gov.uk/school-leader/school-improvement/teacher-development-hub.aspx?ref=www.ttrb.ac.uk/>

- Current research activities in ITT can be found at <http://www.tda.gov.uk/support-staff/support-tools.aspx> and <http://www.tda.gov.uk/support-staff/support-tools/teacher-development-hub.aspx>
- Research for CPD details at <http://www.tda.gov.uk/cpd-leader/effective-cpd/research.aspx?keywords=Research> and <http://www.tda.gov.uk/cpd-leader/effective-cpd/research.aspx>
- Reports can be downloaded (.pdf) and publications obtained free including Teach Magazine <http://www.tda.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/life-as-a-teacher/teach-magazine.aspx> The articles are based on recent research, taking the key facts and findings of top educationalists and translating them into readable and informative features.
- Current award system <http://www.tda.gov.uk/training-provider/itt/developing-quality/research-development-awards.aspx> The TDA has supported a number of small scale research projects with research and development awards, most recently with a focus on special educational needs (SEN).

Several 'teacher development hub' websites have now been archived including:

- Teacher Training Resource Bank (TTRB) <http://www.ttrb.ac.uk/> This website, which includes past teacher research summaries, has now been archived at <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ttrb.ac.uk%2F&where=url&x=34&y=15> with pages from May 2008 – Feb 2011
- Multiverse - a website for teacher educators and student teachers addressing the educational achievement of pupils from diverse backgrounds has records from May 2008 – Feb 2011 <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/?query=www.multiverse.ac.uk&where=url&x=27&y=12>
- Behaviour 4 Learning - this site provides access to the research & evidence base informing teacher education The archive records go from May 2008 to Feb 2011 <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.behaviour4learning.ac.uk&where=url&x=43&y=14>

## Teachernet (DfES)

This website has also been archived:

- <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/research> for 2001 – 2011 is found at [http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/\\*/http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/*/http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/) Research in progress or just completed. The research section gives detailed information about finding completed research reports, articles, texts and relevant websites.
- Updates <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/teachingandlearning/schoolstandards/latestresearch/> for Jan 2008 – Feb 2011 are found at <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.teachernet.gov.uk%2Fteachingandlearning%2FschooLstandards%2Flatestresearch%2F&where=url&x=47&y=16>
- School partnerships <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/research/networksandpartnerships/> pages from April 2003 – Feb 2011 are found at <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.teachernet.gov.uk%2Fresearch%2Fnetworksandpartnerships%2F+&where=url&x=37&y=12>
- Collaborating by using or undertaking research with other teachers, schools and LEAs may be useful. <http://www.tda.gov.uk/> has information on schools, see below.

## Archived pages of English Departments of Education and associated organisations pre May 2010

BECTA

<http://www.becta.org.uk>

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20090608182316/http://www.becta.org.uk>

Research reports and publications and new technologies e.g. Web 2.0 (blogs and social networks) use in education.

Department for Children Schools and Families

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk>

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20090608182316/http://www.dcsf.gov.uk>

Pre 2009 actions e.g. Every Child Matters; Early Years Foundation Stage; also research programmes and publications.

DfES Innovation Unit

<http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/innovation-unit>

Archived at

<http://collections.europarchive.org/tna/search/?lang=en&query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.standards.dfes.gov.uk%2Finnovation-unit%2F&where=url&x=41&y=8>

Feb 2003 - May 2010

The research element has been retained as:

DfE The Research Informed Practice site (TRIPS)

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/toolsandinitiatives/tripsresearchdigests>

National Curriculum in Action

<http://www.ncaction.org.uk/creativity/resources.htm>

[http://www.ncaction.org.uk/creativity/new\\_examples.htm](http://www.ncaction.org.uk/creativity/new_examples.htm)

Now found at

<http://collections.europarchive.org/tna/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncaction.org.uk%2Fcreativity%2Fresources.htm+&where=url&x=41&y=14>

and

[http://collections.europarchive.org/tna/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncaction.org.uk%2Fcreativity%2Fnew\\_examples.htm+&where=url&x=42&y=10](http://collections.europarchive.org/tna/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncaction.org.uk%2Fcreativity%2Fnew_examples.htm+&where=url&x=42&y=10)

Resources and examples on creativity from QCA. An exploration of children's creative thinking and behaviour.

QCA

<http://www.qca.org.uk>

now found at

<http://collections.europarchive.org/tna/search/?lang=en&query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.qca.org.uk&where=url&x=43&y=20>

Research reports and publications.

Standards Site – schemes of work

<http://standards.dfes.gov.uk/schemes3/>

Now found at:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20090608182316/standards.dfes.gov.uk/schemes3/>

<http://collections.europarchive.org/tna/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fstandards.dfes.gov.uk%2Fschemes3%2F&where=url&x=23&y=8> Schemes of work and examples.

Teachernet

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20090608182316/teachernet.gov.uk/teachers/>

Useful publications Click on Archive Issues for back copies of Primary.

Teachers TV

<http://www.teachers.tv>

Current site under threat ( April 2011) Archived pages are found at

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20090608182316/http://www.teachers.tv>

Access to subject videos and training videos

### 3. Independent sites who work closely with government agencies

Arranged alphabetically

#### Cambridge Primary Review (CPR)

<http://www.primaryreview.org.uk/>

The Cambridge Primary Review (CPR) is the most comprehensive enquiry into English primary education for 40 years. Launched in 2006, the Review has produced 32 reports, conducted 30 research surveys and collated evidence from a range of stakeholders, including teachers, parents, governors and children themselves.

<http://www.primaryreview.org.uk/publications/overview.php>

A Report was published in 2010 Children, their world, their education

<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415548717/>

The website includes evidence, facts and figures, publications, themes and questions under consideration, details of relevant events and information on how children, teachers and parents can contribute to the review.

Users can sign up for email updates about news and publications from the Review. There is a CPR Network

[http://www.primaryreview.org.uk/network/about\\_the\\_network.php](http://www.primaryreview.org.uk/network/about_the_network.php).

#### General Teaching Council (GTC)

<http://www.gtce.org.uk/research/>

The GTC's research activity includes appraising and utilising the fruits of others' research, as well as sponsoring or directly commissioning new studies. The Teacher Learning Academy (TLA) manages the programme of research organised along key themes: continuing professional development (CPD), workforce and pupil learning. A series of summaries of research on topics of direct interest to teachers can be searched. A directory of research summaries can be downloaded (.pdf) <http://www.gtce.org.uk/tla/rft/>

#### Global Gateway (managed by the British Council)

<http://www.globalgateway.org/>

Funding for school linking teacher visits is now available for teachers in England and Wales see

<http://www.globalgateway.org/Default.aspx?page=321> <http://www.globalgateway.org/Default.aspx?page=2493>

#### National Education Research Forum (NERF)

<http://nerf-uk.org/>

NERF came to an end on 31st March 2006. This website is being maintained as a place to access many of the useful reports and notes of activities undertaken. There are recent posts in 2011.

See also:

NERF Bulletin: Evidence for teaching and learning

- All Bulletins (1- 6) can be downloaded from DfE Publications <http://education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/NERFBI1> They present research evidence on topics relevant to teachers from all phases and types of education.
- Past articles Go to <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/teachingandlearning/library/> now <http://collections.europarchive.org/tna/20101007100837/http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/teachingandlearning/library/> for articles archived on Teachernet.
- Current publications Go to <http://www.education.gov.uk/publications> covers policy as well as research <http://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/AllRsgPublications/Page1> covers research – use topics in search to speed access.

## National Foundation of Educational Research NFER

<http://www.nfer.ac.uk/index.cfm>

The UK's largest independent research organisation for education and children's services.

- <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/research/> Research spans all sectors of education, from pre-school and primary to adult and lifelong learning at national, European and international levels. "NFER is the United Kingdom's largest independent educational and children's services research organisation. Our clients include UK government departments and agencies at national and local levels, and our research helps to inform and improves policy and practice at all levels. From here you can browse our ongoing and past research projects and find out more about the research we do". Key 'geography' into the search box as well as investigating the left hand menu. There are seven pages of references to geography!
- [http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/publications\\_home.cfm](http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/publications_home.cfm) Use the Find facility to access reports and other publications from NFER research projects and other NFER work. Many of the reports are available as free downloads, and others can be purchased online either electronically or as hard copy.
- Subscribe to NFERDirect, the email alert service, to find out when publications are released. [http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/pre/pre\\_home.cfm](http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/pre/pre_home.cfm)
- Practical research for education (pre) was the NFER's bi-annual journal for education practitioners, headteachers, students, researchers, academics and classroom teachers. It ceased publication in 2011. Articles show how the results of up-to-date research have practical implications for teaching and learning, school management and policy. Leading researchers and theorists are interviewed in the Profile article in each issue. The Tool-kit series provides advice to people carrying out research projects. Articles in this series so far are 'searching for literature', 'Planning your research project', 'Introduction to sampling' and 'Are you asking the right questions?'. Go to <http://www.pre-online.co.uk/> for further information and download free feature articles. Also details of publications about action research.
- Educational Research Journal [http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/educational-research/educational-research\\_home.cfm](http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/educational-research/educational-research_home.cfm) The journal of the NFER, was established in 1958. Drawing upon projects in universities and research centres worldwide, it is a leading forum for informed thinking on issues of contemporary concern in education. Special research areas covered in publications can be searched for e.g. Citizenship, Teaching and Learning, Environmental Education, Outdoor Learning, International, Research-engaged School, National Curriculum etc.

- Impact <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/impact/impacthome.cfm> NFER's research news for schools. The research explores what's happening in education now. There have been four issues so far (March 2011) which can be downloaded.
- Sign up for NFER Direct [http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/nferdirect/nferdirect\\_home.cfm](http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/nferdirect/nferdirect_home.cfm) nferdirect is an interactive email update, bringing the latest news, details of research and recent publications. From the subscription page [http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/nferdirect/nferdirect\\_home.cfm](http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/nferdirect/nferdirect_home.cfm) you can also subscribe to be alerted when the free monthly current awareness service, ontheweb is available by ticking the ontheweb box at the bottom of the subscription form.
- NFER for Schools <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/schools/taking-part.cfm> NFER works closely with schools as partners in a wide range of research, evaluation and test trialling projects. They rely on the ongoing willing participation of schools to help gather sufficient evidence to ensure that research is based on robust findings that are truly influenced by teachers, pupils and others involved in school life. Participation in research and evaluation work helps teachers make their professional input into the ongoing development of policy and practice in education. Pupil participation in test trials helps NFER to develop good quality tests that helps schools to understand pupils' performance. They are committed to making it as easy as possible to take part in NFER projects. They will also always try to give something back to schools which might be individualised feedback from a survey, test results or a summary of findings.

### National Teacher Research Panel (NTRP)

[http://www.gtce.org.uk/research/research\\_informed\\_practice/ntrp\\_1/](http://www.gtce.org.uk/research/research_informed_practice/ntrp_1/)

The NTRP is an independent group of about 15 practising teachers and tutors who work to:

- ensure that all research in education takes account of the practitioner perspective;
- ensure a higher profile for research and evidence informed practice in government, academic and practitioner communities; and
- increase the number of teachers and tutors engaged in and with the full spectrum of research activity.

Further information is at <http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/careers/traininganddevelopment/research-informedpractice/ntrp> where summaries of research conference papers are available. The summaries, all based on teachers' research work in their classrooms and schools, describe their evidence-informed approach to classroom and school improvement under a range of themes from Assessment and Leadership to Home School Relationships and Thinking Skills.

Inside Information is a periodical publication edited by the National Teacher Research Panel (NTRP) and CUREE. It carries articles about practitioner research projects completed by teachers in their schools and colleges. Each feature includes a concise description of the research, interviews with the researchers, suggestions on how to put the findings into practice in your own context, links to further useful information and help with carrying out your own research. There are four themed issues available to download from this page.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/careers/traininganddevelopment/research-informedpractice/ntrp/a0012831/inside-information>

When on the NTRP page continue exploring and find

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/careers/traininganddevelopment/research-informedpractice/ntrp/workofntrp/a0012836/national-teacher-research-panel-papers>

and guidelines for research: <http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/careers/traininganddevelopment/research-informedpractice/ntrp/researchinyourschool/a0012827/national-teacher-research-panel-criteria-for-research>

## Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED)

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Links to annual reports, evidence and consultations

Detail about publications and research including consultations and statistics can be found at

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/portal/site/Internet/menuitem.d3f8c96f499dccee628a0d8308c08a0c/?vgnextoid=3a6b8587fd24a010VgnVCM1000008192a8c0RCRD>

Archived reports are at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20090608182316/http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/>

## The Research Informed Practice site (TRIPS) (DfE)

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/toolsandinitiatives/tripsresearchdigests>

Offers easy access to essential research findings as news digests of the latest research from research journals.

The aim is to build clusters of related articles to enable users to explore practical concerns from a range of perspectives and in different contexts. Themes include:

<a href="#">Pupil grouping and organisation of classes</a>	<a href="#">CPD</a>
<a href="#">Self evaluation</a>	<a href="#">Early Years</a>
<a href="#">Speaking and listening</a>	<a href="#">Ethnicity</a>
<a href="#">Thinking skills</a>	<a href="#">Gender</a>
<a href="#">Transition</a>	<a href="#">Inclusion</a>
<a href="#">Assessment for Learning</a>	<a href="#">Motivation</a>
<a href="#">Behaviour</a>	

## School Research News

<http://www.education.gov.uk/b0058454/schools-research-news/>

The Office of the Chief Adviser on School Standards publishes a monthly newsletter reviewing the latest research findings on school standards and related issues. Copies of the latest Schools Research News are available to download in the associated resources area of this page. If you would like to receive a monthly update on latest research including research for practice issues please email [research.summaries@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:research.summaries@education.gsi.gov.uk).

Research Bites are 90-second presentations (ppt) with summaries of key research for practitioners to share among colleagues and at staff meetings. They focus on practical classroom issues. You can access the bank of research bites at:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/b0058454/schools-research-news/research-bites-a-i> A-I

<http://www.education.gov.uk/b0058454/schools-research-news/research-bites-l-w> L-W

Scottish Council for Research in Education

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/faculties/education/scree/>

Provides detailed information on research projects and users can read full reports and articles written by teacher researchers.

## 4. Associations, research groups and individuals

Arranged alphabetically

### Association for Science Education (ASE)

<http://www.ase.org.uk/>

The ASE promotes, supports and develops science education from primary through to tertiary levels. The association's publications have some sample journal articles for downloading as well as publications e.g. on the outdoor classroom <http://www.ase.org.uk/resources/outdoor-science/>

### Association for the Study of Primary Education (ASPE)

<http://www.aspe-uk.eu/>

Encourages a considered and well researched perspective that will enable all children in primary education to get a better deal. Produces the international publication [Education 3-13](#) and has a very useful links page

[http://www.aspe-uk.eu/Related\\_Sites.asp](http://www.aspe-uk.eu/Related_Sites.asp)

### Basic Skills Agency

<http://www.niace.org.uk/current-work/area/children>

The National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE) aims to encourage all adults to engage in learning of all kinds and in the course of doing so looks at children's learning. Useful links page

<http://www.niace.org.uk/links>

### British Association for Early Childhood Education

<http://www.early-education.org.uk/>

The leading national voluntary organisation for early years practitioners and parents with members and branches in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. It provides support, advice and information on best practice for everyone concerned with the education and care of young children from birth to eight. It also has an extensive publications list.

### British Research Education Association (BERA)

<http://www.bera.ac.uk/>

The site provides members with details of events, publications and other services available to members of the Association. It also provides general visitors with an overview of some of the activities and aims of BERA, with an invitation to become members.

- <http://www.bera.ac.uk/news/> - Regularly updated information page
- <http://www.beraconference.co.uk/> - Annual conference information

- <http://www.bera.ac.uk/teg-bibliography/> - The Teacher Education Group Bibliography was developed with the intention of assisting research students and early career researchers working in the field of teacher education. The bibliography contains details of 446 peer reviewed journal articles published between 2000 and 2008 in UK based journals. The TEG Bibliography 2000-2006 is available to download: <http://www.bera.ac.uk/bera-resources/> Includes quick links to Methodology; Ethics; Theories of Research; Communication and dissemination.
- <http://www.bera.ac.uk/resources/resources.html> - This area of the website provides a portal to an extensive bank of resources. The varied resources include descriptive material and showcases from leading researchers in the field. Created by TLRP and AERS, they are now maintained and developed by BERA.

### British Education Index (BEI)

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/bei/index.html>

A comprehensive index to the contents of 300 British and some European English language education and training journals. Coverage ranges from early years to adult education and includes education management literature. The database contains article references but not the full text. The index is available as a subscription print journal and over the internet. Institutions usually have subscriptions.

### Center on Education Policy (CEP)

<http://www.cep-dc.org/>

CEP is an independent organisation in the USA primarily involved in educational research, advisory work and national education policy development with regard to raising academic standards in US public schools. The website provides access to the full-text of research reports, journal articles, newsletters, guide books and policy documents produced by CEP.

### Centre for Research in Environmental Education

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/cee>

Projects focus on the development of environment and sustainability-related aspects of world views, and the implications of these for educational practice.

### Centre for Research in Primary Science and Technology (Cripsat)

<http://www.cripsat.org.uk/>

Centre for Research in Primary Science and Technology (Cripsat) is based at the University of Liverpool. They research issues of science and technology education in the 5-14 age range. The website presents information about the research activities, completed projects and publications.

## Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood

<http://www.wwords.co.uk/ciec/>

Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood is an online-only international research journal. The journal contains research reports, full-text articles, book reviews and commentaries by educational researchers and professionals who are exploring new and alternative perspectives in their work with young children (from birth to eight years of age) and their families.

## Current Education Research Database (CERUK)

<http://www.ceruk.ac.uk/index.asp>

A branch of NFER – see below

NB The database is no longer being updated so may not reflect current research.

CERUKplus is a free, online database of current education and children's services research since 2000 in the UK. It covers individual PhD studies, as well as long term, large-scale research such as national surveys. CERUKplus is a resource for commissioners and users of research, and researchers currently conducting studies. They can also provide you with email alerts in up to five areas of interest. [http://www.ceruk.ac.uk/email\\_alerts.asp](http://www.ceruk.ac.uk/email_alerts.asp) - but see NB above.

## Early Childhood Research and Practice

<http://ecrp.uiuc.edu/>

Early Childhood Research and Practice is an online refereed biannual journal, produced by the ERIC Clearing House on Elementary and Early Childhood Education at the University of Illinois, USA. The coverage is research on children and parents, including parent participation, early childhood curriculum, and teacher and caregiver development. It is intended that the journal will exploit Internet facilities such as using video, sound, hypertext links, searching capabilities, and interactivity.

## Education-line

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/educol/BEID.html>

RRPG Occasional Papers 1, 2, & 4 and Special Publication are held Browse under keyword author or title  
A collection of 'grey literature' meaning that the research may not yet have undergone a quality control process e.g. peer review. It is a freely accessible database of the full text of conference papers, working papers and electronic literature which supports educational research, policy and practice. Papers from RRPG are held here.(see above)

## Early Years Learning

<http://www.parliament.uk/documents/post/pn140.pdf>

This is a background briefing paper prepared by the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology for the House of Commons Select Committee on Education enquiry into early years education. It reviews research on brain development, the psychological development of children and the outcomes of different forms of preschool education. The implications for early years education policy are also discussed. It was published in June 2000, and is in PDF format.

## Education and Social Research Council (ESRC)

A co-ordinated research initiative whose purpose is to support and develop educational research leading to improvements in outcomes for learners of all ages, in all sectors and contexts of education, training and lifelong learning throughout the UK. There are several sections:

- Teaching and Learning research programme <http://www.tlrp.org/> Education research for the improvement of teaching and learning. This website illustrates the Programme's generic work from 1999 to 2009 and will be available until 2015 - TLRP-TEL continues to 2012. Please direct enquiries to [tlrp@ioe.ac.uk](mailto:tlrp@ioe.ac.uk)
- Archives and events <http://www.tlrp.org/events.html>
- Publications and links to collections <http://www.tlrp.org/pub/index.html>

Also see <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/educol/esrctlrp.htm> for an up-to-date set of all the ESRC TLRP papers in Education-line. Click the Search button at the top of the page - the most recent papers will be at the top of the list. More precise searching for these or related papers from other sources can be achieved through the main [Education-line search page](#).

## Educational Research Abstracts (ERA)

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/era/>

A comprehensive database comprising specially selected high-quality abstracts which cover the current international research in education.

## EPPI Centre

<http://www.ioe.ac.uk/research/154.html>

Evidence for Policy and Practice information and co-ordinating centre. Databases, digests and reviews of research in education. The EPPI-Centre is part of the [Social Science Research Unit](#). It develops methods for bringing together research evidence in a systematic way in order to inform important questions in policy, practice and research. More details and evidence library are at <http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/>

## European Information Network on Education EURYDICE

[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/index\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/index_en.php) also part of NFER see below

The Eurydice Network provides information on and analyses of European education systems and policies. An institutional network for gathering, monitoring, processing and circulating reliable and readily comparable information on education systems and policies throughout Europe. From 2011 it consists of **37 national units** based in all 33 countries participating in the EU's Lifelong Learning programme. Find out more about Eurydice at [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/about\\_eurydice\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/about_eurydice_en.php)

## European Schoolnet

<http://www.europeanschoolnet.org/>

"European Schoolnet (EUN) is a unique not-for-profit consortium of 28 ministries of education in Europe created in 1997. EUN provides major European education portals for teaching, learning and collaboration and leads the way in bringing about change in schooling through the use of new technology." It supports a European dimension in schools. This can be seen in its list of projects on the website, school networking and services, knowledge building and exchange on ICT policy and practice and interoperability and content exchange.

## Evidence based education UK

<http://www.cemcentre.org/ebeuk/>

The EBE website contains a number of sections. A Brief Guide introduces the idea of Evidence-Based Education and argues the case for it. The **Evidence-Based Education Network** is a support group for those who want to promote this agenda. The **Research** section of the site contains resources for teachers and other researchers for conducting and interpreting experimental research.

## Geographical Association

<http://www.geography.org.uk/>

UK based subject association which exists to further the teaching and learning of geography.

- GTIP Think Pieces - <http://www.geography.org.uk/gtip/thinkpieces> Includes a significant research section and items on funding and how to set about research and writing. It also features thought-provoking ideas and a bibliography for developing teaching and research into education.
- Valuing Places - <http://www.geography.org.uk/projects/valuingplaces/cpdunits/> A wide-ranging project with ideas and resources suitable for primary research.
- Register of Research in Primary Geography - <http://www.geography.org.uk/eyprimary/primaryresearch/>  
The Register of Research in Primary Geography is a central database of action and investigative research. It is intended for collaborative use by primary teachers, teacher trainers and those concerned with pupils' perception in the subject of geography and associated disciplines. The website also includes research reports, ideas for getting started and links to relevant websites with research elements. The Examples of

Research page <http://www.geography.org.uk/eyprimary/primaryresearch/examplesofresearch/> provides some examples of research into primary geography covering Foundation, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. The Getting Started with Primary Geography Research page <http://www.geography.org.uk/eyprimary/primaryresearch/gettingstarted/> provides guidance for primary teachers, subject leaders and heads who are looking for stimulation for a Masters degree. It will also be of interest to geography teachers in secondary schools and colleges who are considering undertaking a research project.

## Geography Education Research Collective (GEReCo)

<http://www.geography.org.uk/gtip/gereco>

'A collective dedicated to the promotion of geography education through research and publication'

GEReCo is a group of 13 teacher educators who joined together four years ago with the shared purpose of creating and disseminating research in geography education. They achieve this through a variety of activities including conference presentations, seminars, books and journal articles. They aim to:

1. Undertake high quality research in geography education
2. Disseminate widely, through various publications, conferences and seminars, the research findings of the Collective
3. Develop original thinking, critical perspectives and new knowledge in geography education
4. Actively pursue research projects and funding from educational and/or governmental sources
5. Facilitate a research and publication forum, which meets at least once each term
6. Add value to the research activities of the wider geography education community

The GEReCo website will, in future, contain links to a number of databases that may be of use to members of the geography education community. These databases are in the process of being completed and will be added during the coming year. The proposed databases will include: GEReCo members' research projects; GEReCo Strategic Plan (to 2014); National database of Masters dissertations and research degree theses in geography education; National database of research projects in geography education.

## Geography Discipline Network

<http://www2.glos.ac.uk/gdn/guides/summary.htm>

Some interesting views relevant to late primary and above.

## Global Education Digest 2007: comparing education statistics across the world

<http://www.uis.unesco.org/publications/GED2007>

Global Education Digest 2007 is a report produced by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) in Canada. It focuses on comparing international data on education and this report looks particularly at the primary education sector. It looks at how much governments invest in education, in relation to national income, and includes new indicators to look at "expenditure in purchasing power parities" across nations. The report is available in English,

French and Spanish, as a PDF download of over 200 pages. The website also includes factsheets, questionnaires and a link to an interactive database that contains additional indicators and time series that are not presented in the print version of the Digest.

## Growing Schools

<http://www.growingschools.org.uk/>

The Growing Schools website has been designed to support teachers and practitioners in using the "outdoor classroom" as a resource across the curriculum for pupils of all ages.

Earlier pages on Teachernet, now decommissioned:

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/growingschools>

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/growingschools/resources/funding>

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/growingschools/resources/funding/detail.cfm?id=21>

Relevant content can be found on the Department for Education website

<http://www.education.gov.uk/search/results?q=Growing+SChools> which covers relevant publications and other reports. The Teachernet URLs have been archived and are accessible via The National Archives website.

[http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/\\*/http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/*/http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/) (enter the growing schools URL into search) where pages are kept from April 2001 to Feb 2010.

## Harvard Project Zero

<http://www.pz.harvard.edu/>

Harvard Project Zero is an educational research group at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Founded in 1967 by the philosopher Nelson Goodman, the group was set up to investigate the development of learning processes in children, adults and organisations. The website includes lists of current, recent and previous research projects

## Higher Education Academy Subject Centre for Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences (GEES)

<http://gees.ac.uk/>

The aim of the Subject Centre is to support and enhance learning and teaching in Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences (GEES)

- <http://gees.ac.uk/projtheme/linktr/linktr.htm> Links teaching and learning and research in the three subject areas and includes discussion upon cross benefits with educational research
- <http://gees.ac.uk/projtheme/pedres/pedresfw/pedresfw.htm> Learning to do Pedagogic Research and Researching Fieldwork in GEES Disciplines

## International Journal of Early Years Education

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/carfax/09669760.html>

International Journal of Early Years Education is a peer reviewed journal published three times a year by Taylor and Francis. It acts as a forum for researchers and practitioners to exchange ideas about early years education worldwide. It offers a comparative perspective on the education of young children through reports and research articles. Access is via an individual or institutional subscription and the full-text of articles is available to subscribers.

## MirandaNet

<http://www.mirandanet.ac.uk/home.php>

A body of ICT teachers, lecturers and consultants committed to the use of advanced technologies in the transformation of teaching and learning including thinking skills.

- <http://www.mirandanet.ac.uk/think/progress.htm> - Details of past projects
- <http://www.mirandanet.ac.uk/research/> - Case studies which examine the impact of ICT on teaching and learning. They cover such topics as gender difference, underachievement, developing pedagogies for ICT, resources, the uses of online communities, creativity, critical thinking and a range of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) issues.

## National Association for Teachers of English

<http://www.nate.org.uk/>

Excellent material on offer here which will be hugely beneficial for teachers of English, drama or even citizenship. (GTC review)

## National Environment Research Council (NERC)

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/available/researchgrants/typeofaward/>

This is an open competition for curiosity-motivated basic, strategic or applied research, providing funding for small discrete projects, proof-of-concept studies, pump-priming exercises, etc

## Ordnance Survey

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk>

The national mapping agency of Great Britain

- <http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/education-and-research/index.html> - The full range of education and research pages
- <http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/education-and-research/research/index.html> Several research programmes

## PIPS Project: Performance Indicators in Primary Schools

<http://www.cemcentre.org/pips/pips>

The Performance Indicators in Primary Schools (PIPS) Project is one of the family of information systems offered by the Curriculum, Evaluation and Management Centre (CEM Centre), University of Durham. The CEM Centre has provided value-added information for schools and colleges since 1983. The concern of the researchers is to develop information systems that are useful for improvement, efficient in operation and above all, fair. PIPS tracks a number of aspects of schooling as pupils move through the primary sector. Its aim is to become a valuable tool for professional use in order to improve education. The system monitors the progress made by pupils (the value-added), their self-esteem and the quality of life within school between the start of Reception and Year 8.

## Royal Geographical Society (RGS-IBG)

<http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Research+and+Higher+Education/Research+and+HE.htm>

Chiefly aimed at secondary and higher education and in geography rather than education. Worth looking at for issues.

## Social Science Information Gateway (SOSIG)

Now Intute: Social Sciences

<http://www.intute.ac.uk/education/>

Lists internet resources by type and subject with links to all significant journals, organisations and resource guides in the social sciences. No new resources are being added to the catalogue, but existing resources will be checked and broken links will be fixed until July 2011.

All branches of education and research methods. Includes:

- Primary Education - <http://www.intute.ac.uk/cgi-bin/browse.pl?id=120987> for which there are 78 entries. Relevant entries are shown in this list.

## Staffordshire Learning Network (SLN)

<http://www.sln.org.uk>

- <http://www.sln.org.uk/geography/BPRS3.htm> - BPRS report on better writing in geography
- <http://www.sln.org.uk/geography/Personal%20Geography%20ideas.htm> - Ideas for personal geographies research
- <http://www.sln.org.uk/geography/primary.htm> - Evidence of primary activity for inspiration and ideas to develop for active research. Explore the rest of the Primary pages through the left hand menu.
- <http://www.sln.org.uk/geography/creative.htm> - Creativity at all levels – all worth investigating further
- <http://www.sln.org.uk/geography/Creativity.htm> - Creative Projects
- <http://www.sln.org.uk/geography/research.htm> - Links to research sites

## Teachers in Development Education (TIDE)

<http://www.tidec.org/>

A teachers' network which supports creative work to meet young people's educational entitlement to understand the global dimensions of their lives. It has useful projects with a strong element of action research evidence.

## Teacher Research

<http://www.teacherresearch.net/index.htm>

The personal website of research mentor Sarah Fletcher shows how teachers in schools can initiate and sustain educational research within their everyday work in their classroom.

- [http://www.teacherresearch.net/tr\\_index.htm](http://www.teacherresearch.net/tr_index.htm) - This area of the Teacher Research website is about the practicalities of researching. It outlines the How To? as well as the Who can help Me? and Who Can Fund Me? Look also at how the many research questions have been structured in the Teachers' Research area of this website. Try to identify the kind of question that motivates and that will help to improve teaching with a particular class in school. Try to be specific. By asking 'How can I teach in a more dynamic and satisfying way?' teachers begin to frame their research question. One of the challenges facing a would-be teacher researcher is to identify a focus that will directly inform and improve teaching and learning in class. Look at small local enquiries that cumulatively inform the pool of educational knowledge rather than large scale projects more often undertaken by university researchers.
- [http://www.teacherresearch.net/l\\_index.htm](http://www.teacherresearch.net/l_index.htm) - Links to other home pages that support teacher research including national and international links

## Teach and Learn Net

<http://www.teachandlearn.net/>

The CPD network from the Open University for people looking to update their subject knowledge, needing support for INSET or wanting the latest educational news. This is well worth joining with valuable insights into teaching and learning at all levels.

- <http://www.teachandlearn.net/teachglobal/index.html> - Free information on Teaching Global issues but much more once subscribed.
- [http://www.teachandlearn.net/pri/cc/1000010542/id\\_1000010542\\_1\\_1\\_22.htm#](http://www.teachandlearn.net/pri/cc/1000010542/id_1000010542_1_1_22.htm#) - Similarly for the Primary section e.g. Play, Learning and the Brain.

## Teachers TV

<http://www.teachers.tv/>

Following the closure of Teachers TV, the Department for Education has signed a number of non-exclusive distribution agreements that will ensure that the 3,500 15 minute programmes in the archive will still be available to watch online. These can be accessed via a number of different websites, all listed on the DfE website above.

## The Centre for Longitudinal Studies (CLS)

<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk>

This is an ESRC Resource Centre based at the Institute of Education, University of London. CLS houses three of Britain's internationally-renowned birth cohort studies:

- [1958 National Child Development Study](#) (NCDS)
- [1970 British Cohort Study](#) (BCS70)
- [Millennium Cohort Study](#) (MCS)

The Millennium Cohort Study (MCS) is a research project following the lives of around 19,000 children born in the UK in 2000/1. It is the most recent of Britain's national longitudinal birth cohort studies. The study has been tracking children through their early childhood years and plans to follow them into adulthood. There have been four surveys so far – at age nine months, three, five and seven years. The next sweep of the study will take place in 2012 when the children will be 11. The MCS team provide summaries of the initial findings from the surveys. There are fourteen briefing notes which were produced after the first three waves of the survey (up to age 7) and these can be found at: <http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/briefings.asp?section=0001000100060005>

The MCS is a resource for the academic community to use for more detailed analysis. There is a list of all the studies using MCS in a searchable database on the MCS website:

<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/text.asp?section=0001000200010012>

They have collected information on education and employment, family and parenting, physical and mental health, and social attitudes. Because they are longitudinal studies that follow the same groups of people throughout their lives, they show how histories of health, wealth, education, family and employment are interwoven for individuals, vary between them and affect outcomes and achievements in later life. Through comparing the different generations in the three cohorts, we can chart social change and start to untangle the reasons behind it. Findings from the studies have contributed to debates and enquiries in a number of policy areas over the last half-century including: education and equality of opportunity; poverty and social exclusion; gender differences in pay and employment; social class differences in health; changing family structures; and anti-social behaviour.

## Teaching Thinking and creativity – Robert Fisher

<http://www.teachingthinking.net/>

A comprehensive website with ideas and links for research, research evidence and resources.

## Thinking Skills

<http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/thinkingskills/> is now archived at

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.standards.dfes.gov.uk%2Fthinkingskills%2F&where=url&x=23&y=6>

The aim of this website is to provide information for classroom teachers working in primary schools in the UK about thinking skills programmes and approaches that are currently available. Background information to thinking skills approaches, the compilation of the database and some case studies of how schools have used the thinking skills to develop teaching and learning are included.

Pages re <http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/thinkingskills/> from 2004 to 2010 are stored at

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.standards.dfes.gov.uk%2Fthinkingskills%2F&where=url&x=23&y=6>

Research re <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/RB115.doc> from 2003 to 2010

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/?query=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dfes.gov.uk%2Fresearch%2Fdata%2Fuploadfiles%2FRB115.doc+ +from+2003+t0+2010+&where=url&x=36&y=14>

## WWF Learning

<http://www.wwflearning.org.uk/wwflearning-home/>

The Global Footprint project measured the environmental impact of our lives. There are extensive research ideas from Scotland Wales and England. Resources can be found at

<http://www.itscotland.org.uk/schoolsglobalfootprint/> and other links at <http://www.scotlandsfootprint.org/>

The resources have now moved into Changing the way we live which is worth exploring thoroughly

[http://www.wwf.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/changing\\_the\\_way\\_we\\_live/index.cfm](http://www.wwf.org.uk/what_we_do/changing_the_way_we_live/index.cfm)