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Research

Professional Education members have an impressive track-record of commissioned and funded research project success and publication through the medium of research reports, monographs, books, book chapters, articles in leading international peer-reviewed academic journals and in key professional journals.

The Department hosts two dedicated Research Centres, **the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues (/research/activity/education/jubilee-centre/index.aspx)** which was launched on 16th May 2012 at the House of Lords, and the **Centre for Research in Medical and Dental Education (CRMDE) (/research/activity/education/crmde/index.aspx)**

For further information, contact Professor Hywel Thomas **h.r.thomas@bham.ac.uk (mailto:h.r.thomas@bham.ac.uk)**

Research projects within the Department of Professional Education include:

A Journaling Pilot Project to Enhance Future-Mindedness (The My Character project) (/research/activity/education/projects/the-moral-gap.aspx)

Self-reflection on character can be stimulated by carefully-planned social interactions. Two new interventions, a social networking website and hard-copy journal, designed to enhance future-mindedness, were created, piloted, researched, and then scaled up. The research (2011-2014) was funded by the Templeton Foundation.

Creative writing workshops (/research/activity/education/projects/creative-writing.aspx)

The creative writing workshop project which will run until 2014 is designed to provide a counterpoint to a dominant discourse around the teaching of writing in the secondary English classroom that emphasises product as opposed to process and that values genre and technique above content.

An investigation into women's leadership preparation within the senior leadership team. (/research/activity/education/projects/womens-leadership-preparation.aspx)

This research (2012 - 2013) sought to discover which members of the secondary school SLT access in-service leadership development opportunities (as women and men; white and black and minority ethnic leaders). It was funded by the British Educational Leadership Management and Administration Society

Gratitude Britain (/research/activity/education/projects/gratitude-britain.aspx)

The Gratitude Britain research project encompasses the flagship research work of the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues as well as a number of other research and development work. We aim to make the new Centre into a major international hub of interdisciplinary research into character, virtue and virtue education – research with both theoretical and practical applications.

Primary Schools of Character (/research/activity/education/projects/primary-schools-of-character.aspx)

The Primary Schools of Character project aims to produce a chain of Primary School Academies which have Character Education at their core. It will run from 2013 - 2014.

Risking it All (Porticus) (/research/activity/education/projects/risking-it-all.aspx)

The purpose of this research (2011-2014) was to explore empirically young people's attitude to risk, and what implications this has for the development of character and values.

The Honorable Virtues Project (Knightly Virtues) (/research/activity/education/projects/knightly-virtues.aspx)

This educational program (running from 2012-2014) seeks to provide nine to eleven year olds with the chance to creatively explore great stories of knights and heroes and the virtues to which they aspired.

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