

INTEGRATING CO-PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION THROUGH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND



Background

- High quality educational provision is paramount to the stability and future prosperity of Northern Ireland
- Many areas of Northern Ireland (e.g. West Belfast) have high concentrations of economic deprivation and require support
- Education support Services have been diminished over time.

The question

How do we as practitioner researchers assist with the improvement of education not only in our schools but also, collectively in our communities? (Brown 2011)



(Dr. Martin Brown, Professor Gerry McNamara (EQI); John O'Dowd, Minister for Education – Stormont Castle)



(Professor Gerry McNamara, Joe O'Hara (EQI) - Stormont Castle)



One Solution to improvement 2009 – Present

Facilitated CPD Evaluation

- Northern Ireland is at a different stage of school evaluation in comparison to some jurisdictions. Data informed Decision Making, peer assessment, etc. is common practice in schools
- Other aspects of CPD evaluation need to be provided such as area, cluster based, participatory evaluation, value added, etc.

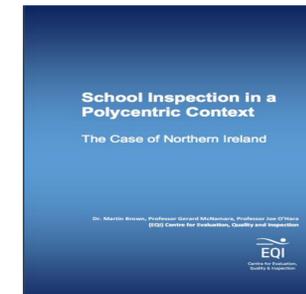
Impact

- **14** evaluation CPD clusters throughout Northern Ireland
- **More than 620 staff** have participated in Evaluation training to date with evidential impact



(Jerich Fadder, Dr. Martin Brown, Dr. Patrick Shevlin (EQI), Mrs. B. Farrimond, CBS Glen road)

- The model of CPD evaluation developed in Northern Ireland is also gaining traction at an international level



One Solution to improvement 2009 – Present

Facilitated Research Partner Schools



(Dr. Patrick Shevlin (EQI); Máire Thompson (Malone College); – Dr. Martin Brown (EQI); Roisin Marshall (CEO - Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education)

Impact

- Schools now engaging in action research for improvement in various areas such as:
 - Parent, student Voice
 - Child of Birth Assessment
 - Polycentric Evaluation
 - Evaluating AFL
 - Communities of Practice
 - Data informed Decision making
 - Area Learning Communities (ALC)



(Impact Evaluation meeting with Northern Ireland inspectorate, and West Belfast Area Learning Community)

We are already seeing the benefits of this Action Research Model in our School (Teacher – North Belfast)



MaloneCollege @MaloneCollege · Feb 9
Delighted to be partners with @EQI_DCU for action based research in schools

One Solution to improvement Moving Forward

Connecting Hearts and Minds

- Open Access on line CPD support provided to all schools in Northern Ireland



- Cascaded model of facilitated support provided to research partners



Martin Brown @mvtb2014 · 6 Dec 2016
Excellent day planning ed research for 2017 in @HolyCrossBoys NB with #dcu research partner schools, P. Shevlin @chrisadonnely #Niresearch



We think that these concepts have a wider application towards improving standards across our system. We have started something here (Principal – West Belfast)