

How do schools and teachers access and use research?

What role do local authorities and higher education institutes play in supporting schools and teachers in accessing and using research?

We are keen to build up a clearer picture about how schools and teachers currently access research as well as examples of how they use research to inform their practices. This is so that we can ensure that the research resources and support we provide are tailored to the needs of practitioners. We are also interested in finding out about how local authorities, field staff and higher education institutes support schools in becoming engaged with research. We plan to hold an event later this year for teachers, LAs and HEIs to share experiences and ideas about to improve access to and use of research e.g. for school and professional development purposes. **As a starting point, we would be really interested in gathering information from school staff, LAs, and HEIs currently subscribing to our newsletter. If you have time, we'd be really interested in your replies to the following questions – part A) is for teachers and schools and Part B) is for field staff, LAs and HEIs.**

If you have a few minutes to complete the questions – we'd be glad of replies by 10 July. Please e-mail replies to research.summaries@dfes.qsi.gov.uk.

A. Questions for schools and teachers

1. Where do you currently look for research evidence?

(Please delete any fields that don't apply).

Schools Research News

Subject Association

Magazine or journal (please name)

Findings from teacher research in your school

Findings from teacher research in other schools

Internet search e.g. Google

Local authority

Web-based digests for teachers e.g. The Research Informed Practice Site

Other sources – (please name)

Which one of these sources do you use most?

2. How does your school share research findings among staff?

(Please delete any fields that don't apply).

School produces research newsletter or other publication

Staff meetings are used to discuss findings from research

School invites researchers in to talk about their research

School e-mail system is used to convey research findings

Up to individual teachers to find own research – not much sharing between staff

A member of staff is responsible for seeking out research and sharing with staff

A team of staff is responsible for seeking out research and sharing with staff

Other arrangement – (please state).....

Please tell us briefly any ways either you or your school finds effective in keeping up to date with research evidence.

Please tell us briefly about any ways either you or your school finds effective in communicating research findings to school staff.

Please tell us briefly about any examples of how you or your school has made use of research to inform classroom practice and or school development.

B. Questions for field staff, local authorities and higher education institutes

1. How do you support schools and teachers in accessing research?

(Please delete any fields that don't apply).

Produce in-house research publication for schools and practitioners

Email research findings to a named school recipient

Provide training for schools in accessing research

Provide training for schools in using research

Present research findings at staff meetings

Other (please state).....

2. What prompted your involvement in helping schools to access and use research?

(Please delete any fields that don't apply).

Direct approach from school for help

Proximity of location to school

Other (please state).....

Please tell us briefly about any practices you have developed to help schools to look for research.

Please tell us briefly about any practices you have developed to help schools use research to inform their development.