

West Midlands,

Home: 0121

Work: 0121

Mobile:

## PROFILE

A highly experienced education professional specialising in early years and childcare with strong teaching and research skills demonstrated through lecturing in Higher and Further Education, through the development and delivery of training programmes for childcare practitioners and through current PhD research. Senior level strategic experience in a local authority setting, managing services for children and families.

## EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

- 2006 – 2013  
(p/time)      **Doctorate in Education: Learning and Learning Contexts**  
University of Birmingham, School of Education
- **Research Project: “Beyond the Checklist - Improving the quality of the learning experience.”** Looks at what interventions are needed to improve the quality of provision of early years learning, considering both the regulatory framework and social context. Carried out quantitative and qualitative research amongst parents, practitioners and staff in order to determine a collective view of provision compared against the statutory framework laid down by Ofsted. Presented research to students at the Universities of Birmingham and Oxford.
- 2001 – 2002      **BA Education (in-service degree), University of Worcester, First Class**
- 2001      **Ofsted Certificate of Registration** as Nursery Inspector
- 2001      **Diploma in Performance Coaching (NCFE)**
- 1995      **Teaching Certificate in Further and Adult Education (C&G) and BTEC Assessors awards**
- 1994      **NNEB Post Qualifying Diploma – Early Childhood Studies**
- Other courses:** Child Abuse & Neglect (Open University), Sociology/Psychology – Child Development SEG/MEG

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 1999 – present      **Trainer: early years and childcare practice**
- Integral part of local authority roles included the development and delivery of training for local authority managers and staff, healthcare professionals and childcare practitioners on a wide range of early years and childcare subjects including: Child Poverty Awareness, Outcome Based Accountability and Equality Training.
- Feb – May 1999      **Lecturer, Early Years and Childcare, Halesowen College**
- Teacher on the BTec childcare course and on a community outreach programme for women returners.
- Jul 1990 – Jan 1999      **Lecturer/Assessor, Early Years and Childcare Courses (1994-1997), Manager, Childcare Support Services (1990-1997), Manager, Family Learning Projects (1997-1999)**  
Bilston Community College, Wolverhampton
- Taught childcare courses, trained NVQ Assessors for childcare, play work and care.
  - Developed and taught family learning programmes.
- 1997      **Visiting Lecturer** (via Bilston Community College): Delivered equality and diversity training sessions to health workers.
- 1997      **Trainer, Early Years Equality (EYE)**, national charity: Organised workshops and training and contributed to the development of resources for early years practitioners.
- Sep 1987 – Jul 1990      **Basic Skills Tutor, Sandwell MBC**
- Managed and taught on adult and family learning programmes covering subjects such as parenting, childcare and GCSE Maths and English.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Oct 2002 – May 2012 **Strategic Manager, Early Years, Childcare & Play Services**  
Sandwell MBC

Manage up to 60 staff across four key areas: capital building, information services, service providers and supporting children.

- Evaluating business plans and allocating funding for potential providers. Bidding for funds for new initiatives and setting up pilot schemes.
- Setting up systems and managing information resources on childcare and other early years services for families, including organising outreach events and marketing.
- Developing successful partnerships with service providers and working closely on business development and workforce development. Identifying training needs, commissioning training and monitoring quality.
- Leading an integrated team of around 20 health, education and social care staff to co-ordinate the support for individual children in early years education and childcare.

### Key achievements:

- Developed and promoted successful integrated working practices and systems for the unit which were adopted as good practice in other units.
- Successful recruitment and training programmes resulted in improved Ofsted outcomes, thereby closing the gap in educational achievement of children in disadvantaged areas.
- Tackling child poverty through the introduction of a Childcare Credit Union Scheme to help parents budget for childcare fees and the development and delivery of awareness training to local authority staff and health professionals.
- Developed a strategy to increase early years and childcare provision through working closely with local private and voluntary providers and allocating sustainability and capital funding.

May 1999 – Jan 2003 **Training, Recruitment and Quality Manager, initially Development Officer**  
Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership, Wolverhampton City Council  
(seconded to Sandwell Oct 2002)

- Established partnership groups, developed a training programme for childcare workers and supported providers in securing funding for out-of-school clubs.
- Established a Quality Assurance framework for childcare providers.
- Instrumental in establishing the framework for the new National Childcare Strategy at local authority level at Sandwell and Wolverhampton.

Jan 1986 – Jun 1990 **Teaching Assistant - NNEB**  
Regent Special School for children with severe learning difficulties.

- Supporting children aged 2-19 but specifically 16-19 year olds with basic and life skills.

1969 - 1985 **Practical experience in childcare**

Qualified NNEB Nursery Nursing with experience in Birmingham day nurseries, Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Dudley Road Hospital. During this period also brought up my three children and worked as a childminder and playgroup supervisor.

## ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Mentor and trainer** for C4EO (Centre for Excellence in Outcomes). Accredited by IDEA, acted as a peer mentor to help staff in different local authorities to develop and improve their practice, including advising senior management and delivering appropriate training.
- **Quality Auditor** and moderator for other auditors using Early Childhood Environment Rating Scales as used in the Effective Provision of Pre-School Education (EPPE) Project.
- **Project Manager and UK Co-Director – Society for Gender and Child Advancement (NGO, Nigeria)**  
2009- present: on a voluntary basis worked on projects to improve literacy including the development and delivery of a training programme for teachers. Trained head teachers and senior staff on leadership and management and teachers on literacy skills. Also worked on a UNICEF linked project to train monitors and to carry out quality assurance visits to schools.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Conferences:**  
Presenter on childcare and early years subjects at a number of conferences including student conferences at the Universities of Birmingham and Oxford, European Early Childhood Education Research Association, Birmingham 2010 and Geneva 2011, two conferences for managers of childcare provision and teacher training organisations, Berlin 2008 and 2009.

*[This section can be extended to give more detail of dates, conference titles and topics presented]*

- **Publications:**  
Articles published in the leading journal for the sector “Nursery World”.

### **Learning & Development: Consulting with children - A matter of opinion**

Dr [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], 16 April 2008,

Consulting children requires clear objectives and considerations of practical issues. Dr Neil de Reybekill and Lynn Beckett show how.

### **Enabling Environments: Transitions**

[REDACTED] and Dr [REDACTED], 18 June 2008

Factors for practitioners to bear in mind when children move up to reception are explained by Lynn Beckett and Dr Neil de Reybekill.

**Developing and sustaining a successful learning environment** Chapter 7 in *Development & Learning for Very Young Children*- Edited by Hilary Fabian and Claire Mould. Sage 2009

- **Professional memberships:**
  - Association of Professionals in Education and Children’s Trusts (ASPECT),
  - European Early Childhood Education Research Association (EECERA)
  - Training, Advancement and Co-operation in the Teaching of Young Children (TACTYC)
- **Developing and supporting women:** Particular interest in this area including experience teaching women basic skills, mentoring women in current management role and successfully coaching individual women for career development and promotion.

## References

*CVs for academic roles will usually include 1-2 academic references and one non-academic/employer reference. Include the referee’s name, position (plus relationship to you e.g. Supervisor), work address, telephone and email.*