

Staff Profile

Karen Hudson. Northumbria University, England.

Senior Lecturer in Early Years and Primary Education and International Lead, Department of Education & Lifelong Learning, Faculty of Health & Life Sciences

Karen is an early years specialist who has worked in Nursery Schools and Reception Classes in England for many years. As Head Teacher of an Early Excellence Centre she was involved in the UK Government's Sure Start Initiative which proposed a multi-professional and multi-generational approach to tackling the effects of poverty and disadvantage and in particular to focus on closing the gap in achievement between children born with 'disadvantages' compared to their more affluent peers. The Nursery School and Children's centre that Karen led was fully inclusive and Nursery the staff were involved in many initiatives and interventions with children and families as part of the Every Child Matters Agenda. These included Early Language Support Programme, Parenting Programmes, and Adult and Family Learning Programmes. The centre's work was part of a national evaluation to capture the impact of these initiatives on the life chances of young children with a range of disadvantages.

Karen currently works as a Senior Lecturer in Early Years Education at Northumbria University. Her work reflects the ethos of the Early Years Foundation Stage in the United Kingdom that all children have the right to a fully inclusive education through which they can reach their potential. Her role as International Lead enables her to share this with a wider audience and to be an active participant in Erasmus Programmes.

Karen continues her active engagement in the education of young children through her role as a local school governor.

