

## **Dr. Fiona Smyth**

Dr. Fiona Smyth is a post-doctoral researcher and research project manager in social and educational research. Fiona has led two major national studies: *Assessing the impact of higher education on learners' skills* for the Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC) in Ireland, and the *Young People's Reading Study* at the National Centre for Research in Children's Literature (NCRCL), UK. Currently employed as a Research Fellow in the School of Education at Trinity College Dublin, she is also a field researcher for the secondary school phase of Project IRIS (Inclusive Research in Irish Schools), a National Council for Special Education (NCSE)-funded study of special and inclusive education in Irish schools. Fiona acts as a higher education research consultant for various projects at the Higher Education Research Centre at Dublin City University, Ireland.

### **Other funded research:**

The Special Class Model in Ireland: How is it working for pupils with special educational needs in mainstream schools? Co-applicant. Funding agency: The NCSE, Ireland – led by the Economic and Social Research Institute with TCD and Amárach Research.

### **Qualifications:**

PhD	University of Edinburgh	2008
MA (Res)	Dublin City University	2001
BA (Hons)	Dublin City University	1998

### **Research Interests:**

Disability research, special education research, higher education research and policy, qualitative research methods especially narrative research.