

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
Children's Research Digest
Volume 4, Issue 3
Archiving Evaluation Data



Overview of the Children's Research Digest

The Children's Research Digest is a publication of the Children's Research Network. It aims to:

- Provide a forum for practitioners and academics who are conducting research on children's issues to share their research findings or information about on-going research.
- Allow research information and findings to be disseminated in a format that is accessible, succinct and provides a good summary of research on children's issues in Ireland and Northern Ireland.
- Allow Children's Research Network members to find out more about on-going research that fellow members are engaged in, so as to promote greater linkage and discussion on relevant research.

Children's Research Digest Volume 4, Issue 3

Archiving Evaluation Data Involving Children, Young People and Families

Guest Editor: Professor Jane Gray, Irish Qualitative Data Archive, Maynooth University

We are pleased to make a call for submissions for this issue of the Children's Research Digest on the theme of "**Archiving Evaluation Data**". With increasing emphasis on programme, service and process evaluations, immense amounts of rich evaluation data are now being produced. To optimise the value of this data and to extend the learning from evaluation studies, more and more people, organisations and institutions are starting to archive their data in order to optimise its use and encourage other researchers to conduct secondary analysis. This is a hugely worthwhile endeavour but is not without risks and considerations. In this volume of the Children's Research Digest, we invite articles and research summaries / commentaries on benefits and issues relating to archiving evaluation data that includes data on children, young people and families.

This special edition of the Digest will be published in late 2017 to coincide with the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Research Initiative which is an ongoing archiving project at the Children's Research Network. The PEI Research Initiative is funded by The Atlantic Philanthropies with the aim

of adding further value to Atlantic's investment into 52 Prevention and Early Intervention programmes in Ireland and Northern Ireland between 2004 and 2015. The central objective of the PEI Research Initiative is to make preservation versions of evaluation research data accessible for further use, via the national data archives (ISSDA, IQDA and UKDA). Additional dissemination activities from the PEI Research Initiative include capacity building in prevention and early intervention, evaluation and data re-use. This special issue of the Digest will contribute a valuable and timely publication on the processes, motivations and risks of archiving of evaluation data.

Submissions may address, but are not confined to, the following areas:

- Practical aspects of archiving evaluation data
- Ethical dilemmas in archiving evaluation data
- Planning for archiving
- Retrospective consent
- Data cleaning
- Managing missing data
- Archiving of qualitative data
- Archiving of quantitative data
- Motivations for and risks associated with archiving

Deadline for Submissions

Authors must submit their paper electronically for consideration along with the attached submission form to crn@effectiveservices.org. The deadline for submission is October 13th 2017. Late submissions will not be accepted. For further information on any aspect of the submission process, please send an e-mail to the above address.

General Guidelines for Authors

The Children's Research Digest invites articles for submissions from members for each thematic issue. The Digest is our peer reviewed journal that provides a platform to those working in children's research to disseminate their research findings, policy analysis or synthesis of on-going research. The Review has an open access policy and will be distributed as a pdf to members of the network and beyond, and electronically on the website of the Children's Research Network. Submissions for each issue should address the thematic focus of the particular issue and can be written by academics, practitioners or policy makers. The Digest has an ISSN number for both its print and online issues and should be made freely available.

All papers submitted should be well written, free from errors and relevant references provided. It is very important that no plagiarism of other's work occurs. Where an author wishes to reproduce a graph/figure/table/photo in its entirety, relevant permissions of the original author must be provided.

The Digest accepts two types of submissions:

- 1) Short articles of between 1500 and 1800 words (excluding references tables/graphs) that can take the format of review pieces, short research articles or analysis of relevant policy/legislation. They should address the thematic focus of the particular issue and should be broadly based on research relating to children and young people.
- 2) Research summaries / commentaries of up to 600 words that provide a link to research that has already been published elsewhere or may be based on research that is intended to be published elsewhere.

A more detailed style guide is attached.

Reviewing Process

All articles will undergo a review process, whereby their articles will be sent to a minimum of one reviewer and generally to two reviewers. The guest and assistant editors will decide on the appropriate reviewer for each article. The process of review will not be blind (anonymous) for the author, but discretion and confidentiality will be assured. The reviewers may remain anonymous. Where a reviewer has a conflict of interest, this shall be declared by the reviewer to the editor or assistant editor and an alternative reviewer shall be appointed. The reviewer will be asked to provide feedback which is fair and explained clearly and this will be communicated with the author. The final decision to publish rests with the editorial committee, having due regard to the reviewer's comments and the author's response to them. Articles may be:

- (i) accepted in their entirety
- (ii) accepted subject to revisions (major or minor)

- (iii) declined either due to issues of quality or lack of relevance to the particular issue. A suggestion may be made to submit an article for a future issue if deemed appropriate.

About the Children's Research Network

The Children's Research Network for Ireland and Northern Ireland is a members' organisation that aims to support the research community to better understand and improve the lives of children and young people, by:

- Creating and maintaining an inclusive, independent, non-profit network.
- Sharing information, knowledge, experience, learning and skills.
- Since the launch of The Network in 2010, there are now over 300 members drawn from academia, government and the community and voluntary sectors of children's research throughout the island of Ireland. The Network seeks to:
 - Establish links between researchers in different sectors of this research community.
 - Develop structures and mechanisms to promote the sharing of information, joint learning, joint working and the promotion of better understanding across different sectors.
 - Link experienced and early career researchers.
 - Develop a range of membership services that support researchers in this field to build better technical skills.

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