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Cumann Léitheoireachta na hÉireann



Summer Seminar 2009

*“Boys, Gender and School Literacy Achievement:
Current Insights and Possible Ways Forward”*

*A presentation by Dr. Brian Murphy,
Education Department, UCC*

Monday May 18th 2009

7.30 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.

**Cork Education Support Centre,
Western Road,
Cork.**



Abstract for Seminar Presentation

Questions around boys' education and the achievement of boys in schooling have become a matter of public and political concern in a large number of countries worldwide. In this context, as well as in the debate on effective and best practice in literacy pedagogy, a particular issue and concern with the literacy achievement of boys has begun to occupy a prime position. Recent international comparative studies and national research in some countries have continued to show a clear delineation of literacy achievement along gender lines with girls consistently outperforming boys to a very significant degree on all literacy tasks. Evidence of this reality, particularly across the Anglophone world will be presented and discussed. Some current perspectives on how and why such a discrepancy appears to exist between the literacy achievements of girls and boys will be examined. Some of the actions proposed to address the issues of gender and achievement and underachievement in the literacy classroom will then be critically evaluated. Alternative proposals for action on the gender dimension of the effective literacy pedagogy debate, which acknowledge the complexity of the issues involved will then be proposed and discussed.

Presenter: Dr. Brian Murphy

Dr Brian Murphy lectures in the Education Department, University College Cork in the areas of language teaching methodology, literacy and teaching studies. His current areas of research interest include the pedagogy of language and literacy development, second language teaching and learning, gender and language learning and language policy issues. He is a member of the OECD PISA National Advisory Committee and an active member of the Reading Association of Ireland.

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RAI Summer Seminar Booking Form

This seminar is being offered **free of charge to all**, but places are limited.

Please book a place for me on the RAI Summer Seminar (Cork), 'Boys, Gender and School Literacy Achievement: Current Insights and Possible Ways Forward' in Cork Education Support Centre on **Monday May 18th 2009**

I am currently a member of RAI: Yes No

Name: _____

School: _____ Roll No: _____

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Please return to: Cork Education Support Centre, The Rectory, Western Road, Cork (021-4255600) or register online at www.cesc.ie