

**Dineen, Carmel, 2014, *The Use of Assessment for Learning in the Teaching of Literacy: A Study of the Perceptions and Practices of Teachers in Co. Cork Primary Schools.***

## **ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION**

This study investigates assessment for learning in the teaching of literacy with particular reference to the practices and perceptions of teachers in primary schools in Co. Cork. It investigates the extent to which the statutory provision and official and expert recommendations in respect of assessment are realised in the focus school, with particular reference to assessment for learning in the teaching of literacy.

The literature reviewed relates to the history, recent development and present state of assessment for learning (AFL) in general, in Irish education: to the statutory obligations relating to assessment by legislation. The literature also reviews assessment in the English and New Zealand contexts.

This piece of research quantifies the respondents' level of exposure to AFL across a broad range of age and teaching experience. By means of a questionnaire and interviews, this research ascertains the level of familiarity with assessment for learning in the focus school. It ascertains the respondents' knowledge of recent legislation pertaining to assessment and literacy and investigates the level of participation in AFL in the focus school. It also surveys the respondents' viewpoints with regard to the advantages of AFL and its practical implementation in the teaching of literacy in the study schools.

These findings are presented and analysed in the light of the literature reviewed. Conclusions and recommendations in respect of assessment for learning in the teaching of literacy are set out.