

Downey, Kathy, 2006, *Staff Development in Irish Catholic Primary Schools: A Survey*.

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

Staff development has always been a topic that particularly interested me; as a result I conducted my study on this very topic. The area that I chose to research was 'Staff development in Irish Catholic Primary Schools: A Survey'. This study explores the perceived meaning and benefits of primary school teachers to staff development in the ever-progressing world of education.

The study was conducted in selected primary schools in the Munster area. Variables such as gender, location and school size were included to receive more conclusive results. A questionnaire was distributed to a number of schools in both rural and urban areas, with varying staff, pupil numbers and naturally different locations. The questionnaire set out to examine the meaning and perceived benefits of staff development in both study schools and to analyze the differences if any. These results were then be compared to the relevant literature available on the topic of staff development in primary schools.

I found the subject very interesting and plan to conduct more research on staff development.