

Tanya Richardson
Childhood, Youth and Families
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Biography

My research interests lie within the field of Early Childhood. I am particularly interested in how young children's speech and language develops, and the influence of the environment on that area of development. My PhD study focused on whether the quality of the play/learning environment has an impact on the quality of a child's speech and language. This involved troubling the concept of quality. The research has led me to develop a Transferable Quality Assessment Framework (TQAF), which is a research tool to assess the quality of environments and is transferable between indoor classrooms, outdoor classrooms and natural environments (such as forest schools). As my research progresses I hope to test this TQAF and research this further, with the aim of it becoming an assessment aid for use within Early Years settings looking to enhance children's speech and language.

Due to the nature of my work I am also interested in ethical approaches when researching with young children. My work as a senior lecturer in Early Childhood Studies provides an interest in researching student's aspirations, transitions and employability and this forms part of my daily work within this area.

Qualifications

Master, MA in Education, University of Northampton
Award Date: 18 Mar 2015

Bachelor, BA in Early Childhood Studies, University of Northampton
Award Date: 29 Jun 2012

Early Years Professional Status, EYPS

Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, FHEA

Employment

Senior Lecturer in Education (CYF)

Childhood, Youth and Families
University of Northampton
1 Sept 2023 → 31 Jul 2026

Research outputs

Body-worn cameras as a research tool in early years settings: strengths and weaknesses.

Richardson, T., 6 Jun 2022, (Accepted/In press) In: Journal of Early Childhood Research.

Language, learning, and disability in the education of young bilingual children: edited by Dina C. Castro and Alfredo J. Artiles, Bristol, Multilingual Matters, 2021, 232 pp., £29.95 (paperback), ISBN: 9781800411838

Richardson, T., 23 Jun 2021, In: Educational Review. p. 1-2 2 p.

Perceptions of placement experiences of Early Childhood Studies students: the fluency of knowledge and skills.

Richardson, T. & Holman, K., 16 Mar 2021, In: Journal of Further and Higher Education. 45, 3, p. 324-336 13 p.

Student Experience of Learning, Assessment and Support during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Creating a New Reality Phase One Report

Lumsden, E., Meechan, D., Richardson, T., Smith, S., Bugby, M., Dugan-Clements, C., Goy, P. & Rossetti, D., 30 Nov 2020, 39 p.

Enhancing Learning for Early Years Foundation Degree Students: Empowerment through Heutagogy and Reflecting on the Notion of Knowledgeable Others

Teszenyi, E., Richardson, T. & Devecchi, C., 3 Apr 2020, In: Polish Journal of Educational Studies. 72, 1, p. 24-44 21 p.

'Why haven't I got one of those?' A consideration regarding the need to protect non-participant children in early years research

Richardson, T., 10 Dec 2018, In: European Early Childhood Education Research Journal. 27, 1, p. 5-14 10 p., 1.

Children as communicators: peers and others

Richardson, T., 1 Nov 2018, *Early Childhood Studies: A Student's Guide*. Fitzgerald, D. & Maconochie, H. (eds.). London: Sage

Are young children's utterances affected by characteristics of their learning environments? A multiple case study

Richardson, T. & Murray, J., 2 Mar 2017, In: Early Child Development and Care. 187, 3-4, p. 457-468 12 p., 187:3-4.

Speech and language development in a Forest School environment: an action research project

Richardson, T., 1 Jan 2014, Sage. 13 p. (Sage Research Methods Cases)

Activities

Taylor and Francis Ltd. (Publisher)

Richardson, T. (Reviewer)

23 Jun 2021

Speech and Language Beyond the Classroom

Richardson, T. (Author)

14 Apr 2020

A universal and transferable quality rating scale – is it possible?

Richardson, T. (Author)

29 Aug 2017

Prizes

BECERA practitioner paper prize

Richardson, T. (Recipient), 19 Feb 2013

Press/Media

Lockdown/Stay Alert inspiration from the Early Years team

Richardson, T.

21/05/20

1 item of Media coverage

New Findings from University of Northampton Describe Advances in Teaching and Learning ("It's ok not to know what I want to do": An exploration into the aspirations of Early Childhood Studies students)

Richardson, T.

27/02/23

1 item of Media coverage

Peter Zinovieff; Electronic music composer and pioneer who invented one of the first mass-market synthesisers

Richardson, T.

1/07/21

1 item of Media coverage

University of Northampton Researchers Highlight Recent Research in Teaching and Learning (Building Professional Relationships and Student Confidence through Early Childhood Graduate Practitioner Competencies)

Richardson, T.
27/12/24
1 item of Media coverage

Awards

Projects

Student theses

An investigation into the relationship between the quality of children's speech and early years environments
Richardson, T. (Author), Bracey, P. (Supervisor), Murray, J. (Supervisor) & Prithvi, P. (Supervisor), Dec 2020

Membership of associated bodies

Member of OMEP.

Fellowship of the HEA awarded December 2016

Member of the strategy group for the Early Childhood Studies Degree Network (ECSDN) – vice chair of the strategy group in charge of workforce development and the national rollout of Graduate Practitioner Competencies.

Treasurer for ECSDN

APPG member of the speech and language difficulties group.

Member of the working consultation group on learning environments for Birth to 5 Matters.

Co-chair of the ECEC SIG at UoN