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Session leader: Dr Kate Christopher
Co-presenter / accompanying teacher: n/ a
Session title: What is research and what has it got to do with my classroom? A conversation
Key questions addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is research for? • How can educational research have an impact on the classroom? • How can research into subject content have an impact on the classroom?
Main content and activities of session As a very stressed NQT, my Head of Department sent me to a ‘taster day’ at the Institute of Education (now part of UCL) for teachers to find out about educational research. If I am honest, I was more excited about a day away from my Year 8s than educational research. However this experience hooked me in and I have never looked back. It immediately opened doors in my understanding that allowed me to make sense of what was happening in my classroom. This session will take the form of a conversation. I will share in advance two examples of research that have unlocked a more critical engagement with teaching and learning for me. I will also give an example of how I was able to share these insights with other colleagues. From this personal perspective, we will discuss the key questions in an informal manner. Attendees will be invited to share any examples of research or thinking about education that they have found enlightening or empowering. Through this conversation the three key questions will be explored.
Links to resources, publications, etc : To be disseminated in advance: Short extract from Mills. C (1997) <i>The Racial Contract</i> , Cornel University Press Short extract from Hogan. P (1995) <i>The Custody and Courtship of Experience: Western Education in Philosophical Perspective</i> , Columba Press