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Research Interests

Allen's research interests include improving learning in schools and research methods. His school based work looks at how to raise attainment for those students from socio-economic disadvantaged backgrounds. He predominantly uses randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and is currently running four-large RCTs on improving literacy levels for students in schools. His pedagogic expertise lies in the area of cooperative/peer learning. He has published extensively in this area.

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R1303SES: Building capacity for inclusive and equitable quality education by creating a Latin American version of the Paired Reading programme: a low cost evidence-based solution to improve reading outcomes in the region. Cockerill, M. & Thurston, A. $24/02/2020 \rightarrow \dots$

R1869SES: Building effective partnerships with Chile and Colombia for the development of a Latin American Spanish language version of evidence-based Reciprocal Maths programme - phase 1 Cockerill, M. & Thurston, A. 14/02/2023 → 31/03/2023

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R3026SES: Developing sustainable international partnerships for cost-effective evidence based education and social innovation in Brazil Cockerill, M., Schubotz, D. & Thurston, A. 29/01/2019 → 23/12/2019

R2280EDU: Early Intervention in Literacy Thurston, A. & Cockerill, M. 07/04/2016 → ...

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Cockerill, M. & Thurston, A. 30/06/2022 → ...

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O'Reilly, D., Donnelly, M., Hong, J., Kee, F., Kouvonen, A., Liu, W., Shuttleworth, I. & Thurston, A. 01/08/2013 \rightarrow 30/09/2018

R8857SES: Mapping Child Development across Western Europe MacKenzie, A. & Thurston, A. $08/05/2017 \rightarrow 20/12/2018$

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Thurston, A. 01/08/2012 → ...

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Miller, S., Gildea, A., Sloan, S. & Thurston, A. 06/06/2014 → 30/08/2014

R2726SES: Reading for Meaning: Reciprocal Reading intervention to improve reading at transition Cockerill, M. & Thurston, A. $19/08/2020 \rightarrow \dots$

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Aventin, Á., Clarke, M., Grant, D., Lohan, M., Lohfeld, L., Thurston, A. & Tomlinson, M. 13/05/2019 \rightarrow 30/06/2020

R2045EDU: Spaced Learning EEF

O'Hare, L., Biggart, A., McGuinness, C. & Thurston, A. 27/03/2015 \rightarrow 28/02/2017

R2988EDU: Talk of the Town (The Communication Trust)

Thurston, A. & O'Hare, L. 20/06/2013 → 31/10/2015

R3218SES: Using paired reading in Colombia to improve reading Thurston, A., Cockerill, M. & MacKenzie, A. $14/09/2020 \rightarrow \dots$

Awards

Activities

Reading for Meaning: Reciprocal Reading Secondary for struggling readers in KS3:Dissemination Event 2nd February 2023

Maria Cockerill (Presenter), Joanne O'Keeffe (Presenter) & Allen Thurston (Presenter) 02 Feb 2023

CINDE Foundation Maria Cockerill (Presenter) & Allen Thurston (Presenter) 05 Mar 2020

Using cooperative learning to enhance outcomes for students from low socio-economic backgrounds Allen Thurston (Advisor) 28 Jun 2019

Improving literacy for school students from high poverty backgrounds using peer learning Allen Thurston (Advisor) 27 Jun 2019

Using cooperative learning to enhance outcomes for students from low socio-economic backgrounds Allen Thurston (Advisor) 23 Jun 2019

How to improve your productivity when publishing journal articles Allen Thurston (Advisor) 18 Jun 2019

Using peer support to improve international publications Allen Thurston (Advisor)

17 Jun 2019

American Education Research Association, Conference 2019 Maria Cockerill (Presenter) & Allen Thurston (Presenter) 07 Apr 2019

Advisor to government in National Literacy programme Maria Cockerill (Advisor) & Allen Thurston (Advisor) 01 Mar 2019 → 31 Dec 2020

International Journal of Educational Research Open (Journal) Allen Thurston (Peer reviewer) 01 Jan 2019 → 31 Dec 2022

Using peer tutoring to improve reading Allen Thurston (Advisor) 26 Oct 2018

Using peer tutoring to improve reading for low-socioeconomic students Allen Thurston (Advisor) 26 Oct 2018

Massive Open Online Course Allen Thurston (Contributor) & Maria Cockerill (Contributor) 01 Oct 2018 → 31 Oct 2018

American Education Research Association, Conference 2018 Maria Cockerill (Presenter) & Allen Thurston (Presenter) 15 Apr 2018

Massive Open Online Course

Allen Thurston (Contributor) & Maria Cockerill (Contributor) 02 Apr 2018 \rightarrow 30 Apr 2018

Universidad de Los Andes Maria Cockerill (Organiser) & Allen Thurston (Participant) 21 Mar 2018

Centro de Estudios Públicos, Chile Maria Cockerill (Participant) & Allen Thurston (Participant) 20 Mar 2018

CONICYT - Chile Maria Cockerill (Participant) & Allen Thurston (Participant) 20 Mar 2018

Ministerio de Educacion Chile

Maria Cockerill (Organiser) & Allen Thurston (Participant) 19 Mar 2018

Queen's University Belfast, Mission to Chile with Invest NI Maria Cockerill (Participant) & Allen Thurston (Participant)

19 Mar 2018 → 23 Mar 2018

Universidad Chileno-Britanica de Cultura, Chile Maria Cockerill (Participant) & Allen Thurston (Participant) 19 Mar 2018

Whole Child Development Workshop: Findings from the UK Alison MacKenzie (Presenter) & Allen Thurston (Presenter) 10 Jul 2017

Failing to see the problem: Vision and reading Allen Thurston (Advisor) 30 Jun 2017

Research and practice of using peer tutoring in schools to promote student reading development Allen Thurston (Advisor) 23 Jun 2017

Using peer tutoring to improve reading Allen Thurston (Advisor) 16 Jun 2017

Next steps for raising attainment: leadership, school autonomy and improving standards in the classroom Allen Thurston (Advisor) & Liam O'Hare (Invited speaker) 15 Jun 2017

Zhengzhou University, China Allen Thurston (Advisor) 01 Mar 2017 → 28 Feb 2020

Stormont Assembly Knowledge Exchange Seminar - Economic Opportunities, Occupational Class Status and Social Mobility in Northern Ireland:

John Moriarty (Invited speaker), David Wright (Contributor), Dermot O'Reilly (Contributor) & Allen Thurston (Contributor) 25 Jan 2017

Council for Curriculum Examinations & Assessment

Allen Thurston (Presenter) 01 Sept 2016

High Achievement for All - Training for Schools Maria Cockerill (Speaker) & Allen Thurston (Speaker) 24 May 2016

American Education Research Association, 2016 Allen Thurston (Presenter) & Maria Cockerill (Presenter) 09 Apr 2016

ESRC Festival of Social Science event on 'Dead Cool'

Allen Thurston (Presenter) 14 Nov 2015

British Educational Research Association

Maria Cockerill (Speaker) & Allen Thurston (Speaker) 15 Sept 2015

Peer Tutoring in Secondary Schools RCT - Staff training conference

Maria Cockerill (Presenter) & Allen Thurston (Presenter) 10 Oct 2014

International Journal of Educational Research (Journal)

Allen Thurston (Peer reviewer) 01 Jan 2012 \rightarrow 31 Dec 2022

Times Educational Supplement

Allen Thurston (Presenter) $2011 \rightarrow 2014$