Making a Difference: enquiry and inquiry in the classroom

Vivienne Marie Baumfield

Centre for Research in Professional Learning, University of Exeter



Enquiry and Inquiry

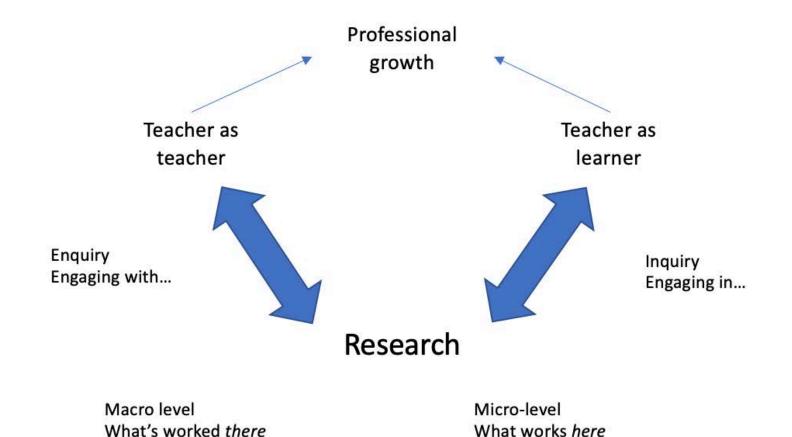
- Enquiry tends to involve a request for information and is usually taken to be about something that is already known such as may be provided by an 'Enquiry Office' in a public building
- Inquiry implies a process of investigation into a situation that is uncertain or ambiguous such as in a legal or public inquiry.

Experiments in Practice

...through inquiry, practitioners across the professional life span can make problematic their own knowledge and practice as well as the knowledge and practice of others and thus stand in a different relationship to knowledge and action.

(Cochran-Smith and Lytle, 2004: 614)

The role of research in professional learning: evidence and experience



The Teachers as Researchers (TasR) Project

- Combatting academic amnesia
 - What do we already know about teachers engagement with research?
 - Mapping review of published research
- Exploring implications for teachers of Religious Education
 - What is the experience of teachers in the RE classroom?
 - Thematic analysis of semi structured interviews with RE teachers
- Identifying opportunities and pitfalls to enable best use of limited resources

