

Robyn Ewing background

Initially a primary teacher, Robyn Ewing is a professor of teacher education and the arts and associate dean (academic), Faculty of Education and Social Work, University of Sydney. She lectures in Curriculum, English and Drama across pre-service and postgraduate teacher education programs, has a commitment to innovative teaching and learning at all levels of education, and is passionate about the role that the arts can and should play in learning.

In the areas of English and the arts, Robyn's research and writing have particularly focused on the use of drama with children's literature to enhance children's English and literacy outcomes. Her research interests also include teacher education, especially the experiences of early career teachers and the role of mentoring in their retention in the profession, sustaining curriculum innovation and evaluation, inquiry and case-based learning and arts-informed research methodologies. Robyn has worked as academic mentor at Curl North Primary School for the past 16 years and is also working in partnership with Sydney Theatre Company on *School Drama Project* aiming to develop the drama expertise of primary teachers.

Transforming the curriculum through the Arts, co-authored with Robyn Gibson, has just been published by Palgrave Macmillan. Her extensive publications also include: *The Arts and Australian Education: Realising Potential*; *Curriculum and Assessment: A Narrative Approach*; *Teaching, Challenges and Dilemmas* (with Susan Groundwater-Smith and Rosie Le Cornu), *Beyond the Script Take 2: Drama in the classroom* (with Jennifer Simons) and *Action Learning in Schools: Reframing Teacher Professional Learning and Development* (with Peter Aubusson and Garry Hoban). She has also edited *Beyond the Reading Wars: Towards a balanced approach to helping children learn to read* and co-edited *Teaching and Communicating: Rethinking Professional Experiences* (with Tom Lowrie and Joy Higgs).

Robyn is a recipient of a number of awards including the NSW Minister's/Australian College of Educators Quality Teaching Award, the University of Sydney's Excellence in Teaching Award, the Director-General's Award for Outstanding Service to Public Education, and the Vice Chancellor's Award for Research Higher Degree Supervision. Robyn was president of the Primary English Teachers Association from 2001 to 2006 and is national president of the Australian Literacy Educators Association.