

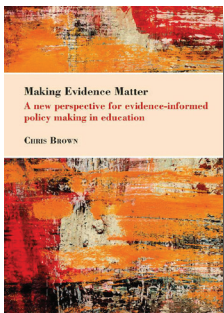
Making Evidence Matter

A new perspective for evidence-informed policy making in education

by Chris Brown

September 2013 ISBN 978-1-78277-020-6 £24.99
ePdf 978-178277-046-6 available in October 2013

Paperback available to order now



'This book goes beyond simply an analysis of how evidence currently does, or more accurately does not, inform education policy making. It outlines how policy makers and researchers should interact as policy-learning communities to create deep, ongoing engagements with evidence to truly inform policy.' - **Professor Bette Chambers, Director, Institute of Effective Education, University of York.**

The arguments in favour of policy makers adopting an 'evidence-informed' approach are well established. In practice, however, the routine use of evidence is yet to be incorporated into educational policy making, with research being used to inform decision making in ad hoc, sporadic, and inconsistent ways. Policy makers are also prone to carefully selecting the evidence they do use, with alternative arguments dismissed as unfashionable, un-robust, or ideologically unsound.

But, the work of government affects the lives of millions. If policies fail, therefore, they are likely to do so at huge cost to the taxpayer, while also resulting in inequitable, inefficient, or undesirable outcomes for large numbers of the population.

Grounded both in empirical and theoretical analysis, this book re-examines the arguments in favour of an evidence-informed approach to education policy; spotlights the factors that lead to a wide variety of evidence and perspectives being disregarded by policy makers; and sets out why a paradigm of partnership between researchers and policy makers is required in order to improve the future for policy development. It argues that policy will never be 'evidence-informed', nor will initiatives be truly successful in the long term, unless both researchers (as storytellers) and policy makers (as audiences) understand and play their part in the 'evidence-informed' process.

This book is aimed at both educational researchers and policy makers interested in enhancing the use of research outputs in policy making. While the book's primary domain is education, the concept of evidence-informed policy making has salience across a number of sectors, notably health and social care.

Chris Brown is a John Adams Research Fellow at the Institute of Education, University of London. With a longstanding interest in how evidence can aid decision making, Chris has worked with both UK and international governments to examine how research can better impact on policy making. Formerly a civil servant, he has held roles in government research and in policy development.

To order:

You can order and purchase this book from bookshops and online book retailers such as www.Amazon.com worldwide.

UK and Europe: **Central Books Ltd.** Tel: +44(0)84 5458 9911, E: orders@centralbooks.com

North America: **Stylus Publishing** www.styluspub.com

T. (001) 800 232 0223/703 661 1581 E. stylusmail@presswarehouse.com

For full ordering, distributor and library supplier information worldwide visit the IOE Press website www.ioe.ac.uk/ioepress

If you would like to receive regular e-updates, with information about new publications and special offers from IOE Press, Institute of Education, email us today at ioepress@ioe.ac.uk and request to be added to our mailing list.