

## **Possible research topics for Plymouth University MA Students**

### **Children's Services**

We recognise that it can sometimes be hard for students to identify an area of research for their dissertation. In Devon we want to ensure that research being undertaken with our staff, systems, and processes is aligned to the services priorities and needs. The Quality Assurance Review Group and the Research Group has generated the list below to support you and the service to research areas that are going to have an impact on practice and improvement.

1. Retention and the social work experience
2. What difference does quality assurance make to the lived experience of the children who we work with
3. Methods of intervention - what works to gain the best outcomes for children and families
4. Are we spending the right amount of time with the right families
5. Strengths based conference model
6. Working with parents with learning disabilities

### **Adult services**

1. **Direct Payments – what works well?**
2. **What are the benefits or difficulties in working jointly with other agencies (health)**
3. **How can telecare support people to achieve improved outcomes?**
4. **How do social workers implement changes in policy and legislation in practice?**
5. **How do social workers transfer theory and research in their practice?**
6. **What outcomes are most important to service users and/or carers?**
7. **What makes a difference to carers?**
8. **What are the benefits and challenges in a “whole family” approach?**
9. **Informal advocacy, independent advocacy, and social work. What works well, and for whom?**
10. **‘Feeling Safe’: understanding what is making carers and services users feel less safe compared to other local authorities.**

Last updated November 2017.