

# RESEARCH/ING ENGLISH / DIALOGUE



## Are English teachers giving adequate attention to the diverse readers in their classrooms?

We are again debating the teaching of reading.

While it can be argued that the debates primarily impact early years teachers and learners, it is fair to say that competing conceptions of reading and readers are changing teaching practices in secondary English too.

In this Dialogue Seminar, we use the notion of 're/locating the personal' to foreground the personal experiences and professional knowledge of teachers, and to reflect on the place of complex notions of personal meaning-making and on pedagogies that aim to enhance the reading of diverse students. As English teachers focus on the teaching of generic strategies in ways that are increasingly teacher-centred and explicit, are we able to also support students to see themselves in texts, to build motivation and pleasure in reading, and to grapple with layered meanings that are at once ambiguous and nuanced? Are English teachers giving adequate attention to the diverse readers in our classrooms? And, where do we locate ourselves as teachers of reading and does 'location' matter?

Facilitated by Dr Amanda McGraw, this Dialogue will begin with an engaging panel discussion with Australian and international researchers whose expertise is related to the teaching of reading. There will be an opportunity for teachers to discuss their contextual circumstances in small groups. The seminar will conclude by identifying the practical implications for teaching reading in English.

The discussion at this Dialogue will centre around the research into reading that will be circulated in the Research Snapshot. This is an opportunity for English teachers to deepen their understandings of theoretical standpoints, and to also critically examine classroom reading approaches as they are experienced by students and teachers of English.

Guest panellists to be confirmed.



### FACILITATOR:

Dr Amanda McGraw,  
Federation University

Dr Amanda McGraw is a narrative researcher fascinated by the complicated stories teachers (and pre-service teachers) tell about their work and those that young people share about their experiences at school. Amanda uses a range of methods to tap into life stories including extended conversation, and visual and shared analysis of artefacts. Her research interests include a focus on teaching reading and writing in English, dispositions in teaching, school/university partnerships, and teacher professional learning. She has expertise in developing communities of practice involving practising teachers who use practitioner inquiry to learn deeply about teaching and learning processes.

### DATE:

Thursday 19 June 2025

### TIME:

2 – 4pm

### VENUE:

The AEU Building,  
126 Trenerry Crescent, Abbotsford

### REGISTRATION:

Concession \$75

Individual \$80

Organisational \$85

### HYBRID

This event will be delivered in a hybrid format. Livestream and in-person registration options are available.