Welcome to research in the Faculty of Health & Social Care. I'm Sarah Earle, Associate Dean.

Research is at the heart of our mission to influence policy and practice, and to make a positive difference to people's lives. The high quality, applied research we undertake, is relevant to both our teaching and to the experience of health and social care. In a period of rapid social and economic change, our research seeks to find original solutions to important questions.

Research underpins and informs our curriculum, keeping our teaching and learning relevant and contemporary. Our research is organised into five major themes. Each theme addresses the key challenges that people face in health and social care throughout their lives. The themes include: Children, young people, parenting and families; Reproductive and sexual health, Living with disability and long-term conditions, Age and ageing; and, Death, dying and bereavement. We've been funded to carry out research by the Research Councils, as well as local, national and international organisations and agencies.

I'm proud to represent a team of staff who are creative and committed, and who support the values of the Faculty and University. We have a broad base of academic excellence and expertise - with a focus on multi-disciplinary, applied research and knowledge transfer. Our research is recognised as internationally excellent and world-leading in our field. We also have a strong and exceptional background of methodological innovations. We serve as a hub for research in health and social care across the University, and more widely, with contributions from academics with a range of disciplinary backgrounds, as well as practitioners, policy makers, service planners and users.

We've a lively and growing body of postgraduate students, studying either part- or full-time, in the UK and internationally. We offer fully-funded competitive studentships each year. Many of our students are also funded, or part-funded by other organisations. Their work addresses our research themes in creative and engaging ways and form an important part of our research culture and community.

We host seminars, workshops and conferences throughout the year to which we warmly welcome academic and research colleagues, practitioners, policy makers and service users. I hope you'll find what you're looking for on our website and that you'll get in touch and join our research community.