

NEWS RELEASE**EMBARGOED TO 1300, WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2011****PRESTIGIOUS BOOK AWARD FOR THE CAMBRIDGE PRIMARY REVIEW**

***Children, their World, their Education*, the 600-page final report of the Cambridge Primary Review, has received First Prize in the 2011 Book Awards of the Society for Educational Studies (SES).** This cash prize is awarded annually for a book which tackles issues of fundamental educational importance, displays conspicuous originality of analysis and argument, effectively connects research, theory, policy and practice, and is accessibly written.

Children, their World, their Education was published by Routledge in October 2009 with a 2010 imprint. It marked the culmination of the implementation phase of the Cambridge Primary Review (CPR), an independent enquiry into the condition and future of English primary education that was launched in 2006. The CPR is based at Cambridge University's Faculty of Education and is directed by Professor Robin Alexander. It is the biggest and most comprehensive such enquiry since the 1960s and has been supported since its inception by Esmée Fairbairn Foundation. As well as this prize-winning final report it has produced 31 interim reports, 41 briefings and a major volume of research surveys. These publications provoked considerable media, political and public interest when they first appeared between 2007 and 2009. The editor and lead author of *Children, their World, their Education* is Robin Alexander, and its other contributing authors are Michael Armstrong, Julia Flutter, Linda Hargreaves, David Harrison, Wynne Harlen, Elizabeth Hartley-Brewer, Ruth Kershner, John MacBeath, Berry Mayall, Stephanie Northen, Gillian Pugh, Colin Richards and David Utting.

The coalition government has initiated a programme of regular high-level consultations on the implications of the CPR's evidence for educational policy, and several of the Review's key recommendations have either been directly acted on or have indirectly influenced the direction that policy has taken. Simultaneously, the Review has established, again with Esmée Fairbairn Foundation support, a national network of regional centres, schools and teachers, all of which are committed to taking forward and building on the Review's ideas. The Review has also provoked considerable international interest, with contacts from 146 countries and particular enthusiasm from Australia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden and the United States.

Commenting on the SES award, CPR Director Robin Alexander said: 'The Cambridge Primary Review and the contributors to *Children, their World, their Education* are delighted and honoured to receive this award. The Review was set up to make a difference, not to make money, so along with the book's royalties the SES prize will be used to support some of the country's most vulnerable, disadvantaged and marginalised children. Their education remains top of our list of priorities as we continue to work with teachers and policymakers to provide all children with a primary education which achieves the highest possible standards through a rich curriculum that fires their enthusiasm for lifelong learning.'

Children, their World, their Education: final report and recommendations of the Cambridge Primary Review, 608 pp, Routledge, ISBN 978-0-415-54871-7 (pb). http://www.primaryreview.org.uk/publications/final_report.php. Briefings about the Review, its interim and final reports, its policy priorities and its current network may be downloaded at www.primaryreview.org.uk.

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Cambridge Primary Review: www.primaryreview.org.uk

University of Cambridge Faculty of Education: <http://www.educ.cam.ac.uk/>

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation: <http://esmeefairbairn.org.uk/about-us.html>

Society for Educational Studies: <http://soc-for-ed-studies.org.uk/>