



**University of
Central Lancashire**
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Members of Race Equity Data Collection Panel (RE DCP)

Race Equity Research Principal Investigators

Dr John Wainwright - Co-Director of Global Race Centre for Equality (GRACE)

Professor Cath Larkins – Co-Director of Centre for Children and Young People's Participation (CCYPP)



**Global
Race
Centre for
Equality**
(GRACE)



Transdisciplinary Research Centre's Expertise and Experience of Race Equity data collection and impactful research.

The [Global Race Centre for Equality \(GRACE\)](#) is a transdisciplinary research centre run by and for staff and communities of minoritized ethnicities with lived experience of racism. **GRACE** leads a transdisciplinary collaboration of research centres at the University of Central Lancashire that have significant expertise in undertaking race equity co-produced data collection and impactful research.

The transdisciplinary collaboration led by **GRACE**, also involves the **Centre for Children and Young People's Participation (CCYPP)**, **Connect** and the **Criminal Justice Research Partnership**. We have considerable experience of identifying and creating appropriate measures and collecting and analysing data from vulnerable children and young people (CYP) from minoritised ethnic backgrounds. This has involved use of a range of quantitative measurement tools, bespoke measures and qualitative designs, including creative and innovative methods

Examples of the expertise of our team members are detailed below, including lived and learned expertise in race equity informed approaches to collecting data in impact evaluations; collaborating in research teams; communicating with children, young people, parents/carers and stakeholders; and supporting collection of high-quality data with good response rates. We then give further details of the staff involved in this collaboration and our approach to embedding race equality and equity in our work.

Please approach John Wainwright JPWainwright@uclan.ac.uk for further details of our work and expertise, and to discuss which staff may have availability for any potential collaborations.

Collecting data as part of an impact evaluation

[Dr Wainwright](#) is the lead researcher for this transdisciplinary collaboration of research centres. He is the Co-Director and co-founder of GRACE (Global Race Centre for Equality) which is transdisciplinary centre that has been established and led by academics of African, Asian, or minority ethnic heritage that focuses on race equity and the experiences of minority ethnic communities (inter)nationally. Dr Wainwright, has a commitment to anti-racism in research and associated invisibility of race within research. He can provide robust advice on race equity throughout design and implementation and analysis of impact evaluations.

Dr Wainwright's significant research expertise and experience has focused on co-producing research addressing racial equity, youth justice, children in the care system and the intersection of these areas of inquiry. In particular, Dr Wainwright, has undertaken co-production research with Black children in the care system in Manchester that explored how being involved in creative arts, enabled them to be able to discuss the trauma that they had experienced in their lives in a therapeutic and

cathartic way. Dr Wainwright also has undertaken several co-production research projects as principal investigator that have focused on, or included, Black and Mixed heritage children in the youth justice system. For instance, in 2018 he was commissioned by a Merseyside youth justice service to undertake research with Black and Mixed heritage boys' experiences before entering and whilst in the youth justice system. Dr Wainwright has been the principal investigator for several youth justice projects that have co-produced an understanding of the experiences of Black and Asian in the youth justice system in the north west of England exploring their experience and wider support mechanisms that are designed to keep them out of the criminal justice system. Dr Wainwright is currently principal investigator for a north west youth justice co-production research project exploring the experiences of Black, Asian and white children in Liverpool, Lancashire, Blackburn with Darwin, Blackpool and Cumbria, developing measures to compare their lived experiences in the different youth services, education and local communities, the differential outcomes in the different regions, including those of ethnicity, community and region of the youth justice interventions.

Dr Wainwright also has experience of being part of the Centre for Children and Young People's Participation in research (CCYPP) team that worked with Black, Mixed heritage and Asian children for a Youth Endowment Foundation project co-creating with the children a peer action collective (PAC) and social action initiative. He is currently a principal investigator for a research project with Preston Windrush co-producing with Black young men their experiences of the criminal justice system and practicable suggestions to reduce their experience of disproportionate treatment within the Criminal Justice system. Publications: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8190-0144>

[Professor Cath Larkins](#) is the Co-Lead of this transdisciplinary research collaboration. She is the Co-Director of the CCYPP and Co-Director of the NIHR Rapid Evaluation Team for Social Care (Socrates, with LSE and Kings). She has extensive experience of impact and process evaluations and innovative co-participatory research with minoritised children and young people, particularly from Roma and Traveller communities and with care experiences young people and children and young people in contact with justice systems across the UK and Europe. These include studies funded by EU, DfE, NIHR, Cabinet Office and charitable foundations). Professor Larkins was also PI of a learning partnership with YEF (for the Peer Action Collective) evaluating the impact of the initiative on peer researchers and changemakers. Cath's approach to impact and process evaluations, with minoritised children and young people, focuses on processes of dialogue to identify appropriate theories of change/programme theories and relevant measures (cocreating new measures where existing ones are not fit for purpose) and codesigning methods for data generation and analysis.

Examples include:

- Cocreating a bespoke app, video and audio interviews and draw/write activities in community settings with 582 CYP from Roma and Traveller communities in nine countries in Europe, in the two-year PEER study.
- Cocreating a bespoke questionnaire with young people, and over the period of one year, completion of the questionnaire in school settings, by 4564 young people who had experience of violence in their personal relationships (including young Roma and other ethnic minorities).

Publications: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2999-6916>

[Professor Champika Liyanage](#) a senior colleague in GRACE *with lived experience of being a minoritised ethnicity* and extensive qualitative and quantitative Global research experience. Professor Liyanage is the Co-Director of PACT ([Planetary Resilience and Community Transformation](#)), research Institute and is Co-director of the **Centre for Sustainable Transitions** has extensive experience in collecting both qualitative and quantitative data from vulnerable young people from minority ethnic backgrounds across a range of settings, including schools, and community organisations. Across multiple projects, Professor Liyanage has collected data from over 500 young people, with data collection spanning periods of up to four years. Data has been gathered in diverse settings, including primary and secondary schools and community organisations. Liyanage's approach emphasises co-production and participatory methods, ensuring that the voices of CYP are central to research whilst maintaining ethical practices.

Professor Liyanage has significant experience in impact evaluation projects involving vulnerable CYP from minority ethnic backgrounds in disaster affected areas. She has contributed to evaluations assessing the effectiveness of interventions in education and youth engagement (REGARD – Rebuilding after Displacement; INCLUDE – Inclusive Disaster Education) and youth engagement. She was a Co-I in the TRANSFER project, which focused on the transitioning lives of Ukrainian refugees in the UK, including CYP. This project involved collecting both qualitative and quantitative data to evaluate challenges faced by refugee children in education, social integration, and mental well-being. She is currently involved in the BRIDGE (Building Refugee Integration and Development through Group Engagement) project, which focuses on supporting refugee and displaced young people, many from ethnic minority backgrounds, to improve social cohesion and access to opportunities. Publications:

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6687-3611>

[Professor Christine Barter](#) has extensive research expertise regarding children and young people's experience of peer violence and abuse.

Professor Barter is the Co-Director of Connect and was a senior researcher on the Impact evaluation of Speak Out Stay Safe (SOSS): a violence and abuse prevention

programme delivered in primary schools by NSPCC staff and volunteers. This was a matched comparison study with integrated process evaluation that surveyed over 1500 primary school children at 3 time-points (6-month follow-up). In addition, qualitative data from children, teachers, headteachers and programme facilitators was collected alongside structured observation of programme delivery and analysis of Schools' safeguarding records. Outcomes evaluated were Children's knowledge and understanding of a range of forms of harm and abuse; and readiness to seek help. The measures included in the survey were:

- A bespoke measure designed by the TESSE team based on a rapid review of the existing literature on similar studies.
- The Children's Knowledge of Abuse Questionnaire-Revised (CKAQ-R) (Tutty, 1995).
- The Authoritative School Climate Survey (ASCS) (Cornell, 2016).
- The Child Health Utility Index 9D (CHU-9D) (Stevens, 2009).

Publications: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5682-5333>

Collaborating with a programme delivery /research team on data collection:

The team have considerable experience of collaborating with colleagues at other universities and research consultancies, and with children and young people, to ensure data collection with CYP and evaluation of impact on policies, communities, CYP and youth justice/ community practitioners. We build trusting relationships with children, young people and adults through regular meetings, transparent communication, clear divisions of roles, and delivering on our promises.

For example, Wainwright, Larkins and Nowland collaborated on Pathfinder Evaluation; and Wainwright led on a Reaching Communities Evaluation) and (e.g. Black Children for Black Families) and as research team member with Roy (e.g. Gift Shop: see link for Wainwright). The team collaborated on the Child First Pathfinder evaluation for Lancashire Child and Youth Justice Service, designed the mixed-methods evaluation project, developed the co-creative methodology with children, established a steering group, worked with children and colleagues to collect and analyse the children's stories and to lead writing and disseminating the findings and report. The team supported this process by ensuring the children were at the centre of the management and delivery of the evaluation in an authentic co-participatory process so they could experience tangible impact in their relationship with their youth justice workers, their families and future opportunities in for example, education, employment and housing. The research partnerships were successful on account of the complementary balance of skills in the team, open communication and transparency across the project with children, colleagues and commissioners.

Systems or processes in place to communicate effectively with children and young people and their parents/carers and other stakeholders involved

GRACE, in collaboration with The Centre for CYP's Participation (CCYPP) and the Connect Centre have several systems, networks and processes established to communicate effectively with CYP these include:

1. A range of models for co-designed information, consent forms and research protocols ;
2. An approach to assessing risk and support needs to promote a trauma-informed approach;
3. Partnerships with creative colleagues to enable communication through digital, film, podcast and accessible language formats;
4. An extensive network of young researchers who (among other things) advise on accessible communication;
5. Models and tools for collaborative intergenerational dialogue online and in person.

Our transdisciplinary team of research centres at the University of Central Lancashire, led by GRACE, can provide expertise and advice on developing strategies for communicating with children and young people in an open and authentic way which is appropriate to diverse and intersecting identities.

For example, in the last four years, the *CCYPP* has worked on four national projects and two international projects which involved co-facilitation of regular online groups with young people, as well as the co-production of reports and resources on two of these projects. One example, for *Natural England/Defra* (led by Candice Satchwell) interspersed smaller in-person groups and larger online meetings with under 12s to codesign a new national measure of quality environments. A second, led by Deborah Crook, involves monthly online meetings with an international group of young disabled researchers and two international residentials. We worked closely with delivery partners and youth peer researchers to co-produce a series of visual, audio and infographics, and short format written outputs that support young people's engagement in research.

Supporting the collection of high-quality data with good response rates from children and young people for YEF evaluations:

Dr Wainwright's research is founded on inclusive, participatory, and anti-racism principles. He can provide advice on child participatory co-production and Appreciative Inquiry, building on a theoretical position that co-creates with all participants, with particular efforts devoted to the perspectives of minoritised ethnicities and young people. Wainwright's methodological practice includes working with children as

participants in the youth justice system, and minoritised ethnic communities. At the centre of this research methodology is the convergence of co-creative community-based practice utilising an inclusive anti-racist lens. This approach enhances response rates by increasing community ownership of research tools.

PACT is one of the University's Research and Knowledge Institutes aims to bridge academia, policy, and practice, ensuring that research translates into real-world impact, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised communities, including CYP from minority ethnic backgrounds. PACT specialises in fostering trust-based relationships with communities, utilising creative methods such as peer-led data collection, digital storytelling, and survey tools to enhance engagement and ensure authentic responses. PACT's.

The CCYPP specialises in designing and developing research with CYP, in part to ensure that data generation activities are acceptable and meaningful leading to high response rates. For example, as National Learning Partner for the [Peer Action Collective](#) funded by the YEF, iwill and Co-op Group we worked in phase 1 of the programme to understand young people's and delivery partners' indicators of success, and to regularly feedback insights on process and outcomes in relation to these from all 10 sites across England and Wales; achieving high response rates from diverse and minoritised young people through qualitative interviews and pre- and post- evaluations.

The size, expertise and experience of the Collaboration of this research Team and key members of staff who would lead the projects

Along with the Co Leads (Wainwright and Larkins) and Co-Directors (Liyanage and Barter) of our GRACE-led University of Central Lancashire's Transdisciplinary Research Collaboration the following researchers are also key members of this team with significant expertise. GRACE collaborates with these University of Central Lancashire researchers and Centres (CCYPP, [Connect Centre](#) and the CCJRP) calling on their requisite skills as appropriate. The colleagues listed below and their centres would contribute to research projects based on their expertise in the particular area. Each project will be led by Dr Wainwright and/a GRACE senior researcher. Each transdisciplinary research centre provides a suite of methodological and discipline/ theme/ topic focused training on a regular basis and training in their area of expertise.

[Dr Chinyere Ajayi](#) is Social Justice Theme Lead for GRACE. She has significant experience in leading and undertaking qualitative research projects with minoritised women, including Refugees and those seeking asylum. Publications: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8098-5676>

[Dr Allwell Uwazuruike](#) is the co Global Lead researcher in GRACE and has significant research experience in West Africa and with migrant communities in France. Publications: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3746-9254>

[Jonathon Prasad](#) a research associate with GRACE has significant experience of connected community research particularly in the South Asian community.

[Centre for Children and Young People's Participation](#) with the senior researchers:

[Professor Candice Satchwell](#) with extensive experience of art based participatory research with marginalised children in educational and community settings.

Publications: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8111-818X>.

[Professor Ali Roy](#) Has extensive expertise in Social Research leading national projects working in-person and online with multiple groups of young people for the YEF. He has developed, co-produced and published on a series of innovations in participatory, mobile, visual, narrative, map-based, film-based and art-based and co-edited *The Handbook of Creative Data Analysis*^[1]. Publications: [Alastair Roy \(0000-0002-4807-7352\) - ORCID](#)

[Dr Rebecca Hibbin](#) has extensive experience of qualitative research with CYP in the North West and also on a National basis, in relation to interventions in schools focused on attachment, trauma informed practice and relational repair. In addition, she is the Co-Lead of the [Centre for Criminal Justice Research and Partnership \(Youth and Justice strand\)](#) Publications: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8081-210X>

[Dr Jennifer Hough](#) has significant experience of research with knife crime projects and exploring delivering justice-based alternatives through co-production with different communities. She has worked with various police forces on areas related to Evidence Based Policing, including with young people and marginalised communities, and has NPP Vetting Level 3.

Embedding race equality and equity in our work

The Vision of GRACE is to understand the drivers of racial inequality and (co)-produce research to enable race equity. The purpose of GRACE research centre is to explore institutional and societal approaches that lead to racial justice. GRACE focuses on the interplay between the lived experiences of Black, Asian, and other racialised minorities, power, institutional structures and culture, and the outcomes for racialised minorities across all walks of life. GRACE is at the centre of transdisciplinary research at the University of Central Lancashire and strategically focuses on targeted inquiry and race equality goals related to research, pedagogy, and impactful knowledge exchange practices ([GRACE Community](#).) GRACE works with researchers, academics, and minoritised ethnicity community groups to co-produce impactful world class research on racial inequality. The centre engages in regular public dialogue to understand and share knowledge to foster and develop applied transdisciplinary research in the field of race equity that has impact.

For instance, GRACE have instituted formal partnerships with Windrush CIC in Preston and Inclusive North in the north west of England. These knowledge exchange partnerships have benefitted over 1200 members of the Black and South Asian communities, respectively.

Any additional data collection, processing or other services your organisation might be able to provide to support YEF evaluations:

We have extensive experience in co-creating effective measures for quantitative and qualitative data collection. One example of this is our [support to Nature England](#), to cocreate elements of the annual Nature England C-[PaNS](#) which is conducted annually with 4000 children and young people (including 25% of minority ethnic backgrounds).

Brief details of data protection safeguards, including GDPR training of test administrators:

All members of this teams have undertaken the UCLan ethics, safeguarding and GDPR training as researchers with CYP.

Contact Details

Please contact Dr John Wainwright JPWainwright@uclan.ac.uk for further details of our work and expertise, and to discuss which staff may have availability for any potential collaborations. We would ensure that researchers with lived experience could provide insight, expertise and capacity alongside researchers with specific technical competences if needed.

Costings

The staff day rate is £850 but this may be reduced to £750 or £550 depending on the specific staff involved and the services performed.