Dr Liz Chesworth, Lecturer in Early Childhood Education & Fiona Scott, Postgraduate Researcher, University of Sheffield

**Researching the ‘Messiness’ of Young Children’s Everyday Lives in Home and Classroom Settings**

In this seminar, Liz and Fiona will draw on two studies to explore the possibilities and challenges involved with:

- Making visible the everyday practices of young children’s lives
- Developing methodologies that embrace the ‘messiness’ of research with young children and their families.

It is often taken for granted that children’s home practices with television are solitary and sedentary. Adopting a critical developmental lens, Fiona Scott will argue that pre-schoolers’ practices with television and new media take place as part of a complex web of objects, spaces, familial interactions and affect. Her work examines the implication of social class, and contemplates the forms of play that might be applauded and built upon versus those which may be ‘shut down’.

Dr Liz Chesworth will discuss the findings from a study that used video footage of children’s play as a provocation to explore the perspectives of children, parents and teachers. Her presentation will explore ways in which shared funds of knowledge afford opportunities for children to create new meanings within peer cultures.