

## **Voice of the Child Narrative Project 2015**

Sukh Hamilton led the project working with the charity Simon Says. The event took place in two locations and involved working with 12 young people who had experienced significant loss (and several who had experienced multiple losses).

The key aim of the project was to enable the young people to be able to voice in their own words their loss and also to be able to narrate their stories in order to empower other young people who may go through what they were journeying through.

Two lead up exploratory sessions were facilitated by Sukh Hamilton, with support from staff from Simon Says, at Eastleigh Church Hall: Monday 14th and Monday 21st July 2015.

The young people, with two staff members from Simon Says came to the university on the 28th and 29th July 2015 from 9.30am until 4.00pm. The two days at university were designed by Sukh Hamilton, with support from Alison Habens as well as Melanie Fitzgerald. Additionally there was support from some School of Education graduates, and students, as well as student ambassadors.

Day one consisted of a welcome to the university by Dr Pete Starie (Head of the School of Education and Childhood Studies), followed by a mixture of fun and serious writing activities.

Day two involved a campus tour of the university, some messy creative activities, and time to complete narratives. Finally the young people were given a certificate signed by Dr Starie to say that they had taken part.