

## **1. Examples of evidence synthesis and generation**

In July 2016 EIF published 'Foundations for Life' a ground-breaking assessment of the evidence underpinning 75 programmes aimed at improving attachment, behaviour and cognitive development in the early year. The report was accompanied by a guide for local commissioners and programme reports for all programmes rated at levels 2, 3 and 4 on their standards. The work was promoted widely by key sector audiences and the then president of ADCS Dave Hill wrote in a blog "This research is an important step in helping us as a sector think very carefully about where we invest our resources".

EIF delivered a programme of regional evidence seminars to engage audiences in this evidence reaching almost three quarters (74.3%) of top tier local authorities. Independent evaluation of the impact of attending these events showed that when followed up 4-6 months after attending, 65% of respondents reported that they had used EIF evidence in the past 6 months, 93% had discussed **best practice with colleagues**, 90% had reflected on their own practice

The **EEF Teaching and Learning Toolkit** is a world-leading synthesis of the evidence on education interventions, which combines around 8000 studies from around the world. The Toolkit systematically summarises this huge evidence base in order to present the average impact, average cost, and strength of supporting evidence, for 35 different approaches to teaching and learning.

The Toolkit methodology is based on the PRISMA systematic review process, to ensure an objective approach to the inclusion of studies in the Toolkit. The Toolkit is updated regularly to ensure it is informed by the latest available evidence.

A new database of education studies is currently being developed by the EEF to enable the Toolkit to present ever more detailed and policy-relevant synthesis. The database is being designed as a long-term resource, with automated data searching and data screening. Because of the overlap in populations and interventions between EEF and YEF, there will be opportunities to capitalise on the huge investment made in this database to create a similar long-term resource for violence-prevention studies at a fraction of the cost.