

## **Acknowledgments**

I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to the following people:

The participants in this study who must necessarily remain anonymous but without whom, I would have had no material to work with. Every interview was an enjoyable and constructive experience. Thank you for your time, insight and thoughtful contributions.

All those I have worked with as part of the Institute for Research in Education at the University of Bedfordshire. In particular, Professor Trevor Corner, Dr. Marie-Pierre Moreau and Michelle Miskelly, who have guided me through unfamiliar territory with admirable patience and good humour. I am also greatly indebted to Professor Janice Wearmouth and Professor Uvanney Maylor for their invaluable contributions in the latter stages.

My colleagues in the Faculty of Creative Arts, Technologies and Science. Particular thanks go to Professor James Crabbe, Dr. Malcolm Keech, Professor Alexis Weedon and Professor Garry Whannel for their practical support, advice and encouragement. My understanding of education has been enhanced over many years through innumerable pub conversations with current and former colleagues. Thanks go to Professor Peter Keay, Professor Luke Hockley, Dr. Adrian Page, Dr. Kavita Hayton, Elouise Huxor and Richard Wise.

However, above all the professional support I've received, I am most indebted to my family, Juliette, Alex and Nick, who have displayed total belief and endless patience. Thank you.