

## Raising attainment

 CONFERENCE

 SEMINAR

 TRAINING WORKSHOP


This season's training will provide innovative tools and strategies to bring out the best in the children and young people that you work with. We will celebrate a variety of teaching methods that step away from textbooks to inspire young minds. In addition to increasing knowledge and confidence in delivering maths and literacy lessons, we also explore how maintaining positive relationships between adults and children can bring calm to chaotic classrooms.

### NEW Building resilience through play

**Date:** Saturday, 7 September 2019 (Edinburgh)

**Trainer:** Play Midlothian

**Cost:** from £89

 This session will look at play in relation to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and its potential to be a protective factor for children. You will explore the opportunities that play can provide children in developing and strengthening their resilience. The session will touch on play theory whilst also exploring the important role of the adult and the environment in working with and supporting children. This workshop will include presentations, group discussions and practical, hands-on experiences.

#### Key learning:


- Underpinning theory on each of the topics of ACEs, resilience and self-directed play
- Links between play and resilience
- Techniques for supporting resilience through play.

### Foundations of literacy: with Sue Palmer

**Date:** Twilight sessions: Tuesday, 10, 17 & 24 September 2019, (5.30–7.30pm) (Edinburgh)

**Trainer:** Sue Palmer

**Cost:** from £89

 To become committed readers and writers, children need the right support during their early years to develop the abilities that underpin literacy acquisition.

This course will draw on research in speech and language therapy, developmental psychology, literacy, music, storytelling, physical development and play, to explore 'literacy readiness' between the ages of three and seven.

The course will take place on three consecutive Tuesday evenings and can only be booked as a block of three twilight sessions.

#### Key learning:


- Supporting children's language development, including listening skills in a visual child
- Integrating music, movement, stories and songs into daily practice to support literacy
- Developing children's concepts about print and building phonic knowledge
- The relationship between mark-making, emergent writing and explicit teaching.

### NEW Finding the pathway to outdoor play

**Date:** Friday, 13 September 2019 (Edinburgh)

**Trainer:** Cameron Sprague, Stramash

**Cost:** from £89

 This training takes a step out of the traditional classroom setting and opens the door to a world full of possibilities for learning. This is an opportunity to explore how the natural world can be used to enrich learning and stimulate curious minds through interactive outdoor activities.

This training will introduce the benefits of outdoor play and include an opportunity to put the theory into practice as you visit a local outdoor space. It will help you to identify the outdoor learning possibilities that may lie hidden in your own local community.

#### Key learning:


- Outdoor play: the benefits and how it sits currently in a Scottish perspective
- Simple practical steps to take play outside
- An introduction to a theory-based approach to make the most of your outdoor environment.

### Getting to grips with grammar... and how to teach it creatively

**Date:** Friday, 15 November 2019 (Edinburgh)

**Trainer:** Sue Palmer

**Cost:** from £89

 Knowledge about grammar is essential when teaching children how to compose written texts, but due to changes in education, linguistic analysis and terminology, it is an area in which many teachers lack confidence. This seminar, led by literacy expert Sue Palmer, will explore a variety of strategies that can be used to strengthen your understanding of grammar and how to teach it in a creative way that inspires young minds.

#### Key learning:

- Grammatical knowledge needed by teachers to help them raise standards in writing
- A wide variety of creative activities for developing children's knowledge about (and enjoyment of) language
- Integrating grammar into the teaching of language and literacy across the curriculum.

## NEW Being real with self-care: feeling good, working well

**Date:** Thursday, 12 December 2019 (Edinburgh)  
**Trainer:** Claire Lavelle, The Hive of Wellbeing Ltd  
**Cost:** from £89



Stress and burnout are experienced by many in the caring professions. Therefore, to avoid this, you will look at the research and strategies employed by those who have “survived and thrived” following this experience. You will also consider your own conscious awareness of what works effectively for yourself in self-care choices.

### Key learning:

- How our beliefs and values support us in self-care approaches
- Recognising our personal agency in life situations and experiences
- Understanding our reactions to situations which are resourceful...or not
- Employing strategies to support our wellbeing.

**“Very hands-on, lots of new ideas for delivering numeracy that all children will enjoy.”**

*Delegate, September 2018  
 (Messy Maths: an outdoor, playful approach)*

**“It’s been so beneficial to speak to other teachers and hear their ideas.”**

**“Loved the practical nature of the course – leaving with a clear goal, an action plan and relevant measures.”**

*Delegates, June 2018  
 (Raising attainment through parental engagement)*

**“Fantastic course which achieved the set aims and more!”**

*Delegate, April 2019  
 (Getting to grips with grammar)*

**“Very thought-provoking course with lots of fantastic ideas to try at school.”**

*Delegate, April 2019  
 (Foundations of literacy)*

## Messy Maths: an outdoor, playful approach

**Date:** Friday, 24 April 2020 (Glasgow)  
**Trainer:** Juliet Robertson  
**Cost:** from £89



When children have opportunities to play with loose parts, their creativity, imagination and ability to problem-solve becomes evident. It provides the ideal context for developing mathematical concepts.

In this practical workshop (half of which will take place outdoors), you will explore the rationale behind using outdoor play to build the foundations of maths, along with a host of practical ways of making this happen.

### Key learning:

- Outdoor play as a key, everyday approach to build the foundations of maths
- Practical ways to offer the context for exploring and developing mathematical concepts in children aged 3-7.

## Raising attainment through parental engagement

**Date:** Tuesday, 21 January 2020 (Edinburgh)  
**Trainer:** Dr Val Corry  
**Cost:** from £89



Parental engagement is a powerful lever for raising attainment in schools. Using this as a backdrop, this seminar will seek to give you the latest research on why parents matter, and the tools to effectively plan approaches to engaging parents in order to improve educational attainment for children and young people.

### Key learning:

- The policy, practice and research that highlights the importance of engaging with parents
- Understanding parents’ needs and barriers
- Addressing different strategies for engagement
- Knowledge exchange in relation to parental engagement
- Developing new ideas through a range of activities.

