

## Annual Conference 2019



### Early years, learning and education Workshops

This theme is sponsored by:  
The General Teaching Council for Scotland



## DAY ONE – Wednesday, 6 November 2019

Workshop Session 1 (10.30am-11.20am)

**1a Making my mark: expressive arts and children's rights**  
*Heather Armstrong and Kirstin Abraham, Starcatchers*

Young children learn about their rights through lived experience, and the expressive arts are a great way to co-design experiences, develop a sense of agency and show children they can make a difference. You will learn about artistic and creative approaches used in a project to help children communicate what would improve their playground during their transition to P1. You will also develop your own ideas and explore how these can support and expand children's interests and thinking.

**1d My life in primary school: perspectives from a preterm child (and her mum)**  
*Jenny, supported by her mum Gill Doyle, Riverside Primary School*

What is life like in primary school for a child who was born at 23 weeks, experiencing cerebral palsy, visual impairment and learning difficulties? Hear from Jenny and her mum about how the school helped her navigate her time in the mainstream – what went well and what could have been better. Explore an educational eTool designed to help teachers and parents better understand how to help children and young people in school.

**1f Tackling social issues through poetry and music**  
*Blair Minchin and pupils, Victoria Primary School*

This interactive session will explore some very hands-on ways to tackle emotional and distressing issues through poetry and music. The children will lead a quick performance of spoken word set to body percussion, then you will join them to play 'Bust a Rhyme', try beatboxing and body drumming, create four line 'raps', and put the whole thing together!

## Workshop Session 2 (11.40am-12.35pm)

### **2a Gaming and gambling: what's the difference?**

*Chiara Marin, Donna Brunton and Paul Anderson, Fast Forward*

Learn about the links between gaming and gambling, and the potential harms these pose to children's health and wellbeing. Explore the current landscape of gaming and consider a range of approaches and initiatives that can be used to address online safety, gaming and gambling with young people, and promote harm-reduction.

### **2b Leader of the pack (brum brum!): diversion and desistance activities in Fife**

*Young people and motorbikes, supported by Includem*

Includem and Kingdom Offroad Motorcycle Club designed and delivered a programme for young people who were involved in anti-social, dangerous behaviours. The young people were introduced to safe and responsible motorbike riding, incorporating bike maintenance, first aid, teamwork and consequential thinking. The young people will share their experiences and demonstrate their new skills.

### **2e When the going gets tough: supporting young people to find coping strategies**

*Young people supported by Quarriers*

Quarriers' Resilience for Wellbeing Service is an early intervention and prevention service that works with young people to improve their emotional wellbeing. Hear first-hand from the young people about how the resilience practitioners' work in secondary schools across the Scottish Borders has encouraged and supported them to develop the coping strategies that give them the confidence and resilience needed to achieve their goals.

## Workshop Session 3 (1.25pm-2.20pm)

### **3a My body is mine: helping children understand the concept of consent**

*Corrie McLean, Three Sisters Consultancy*

In the UK, the age of consent for any form of sexual activity is 16, regardless of gender or sexual orientation. Not all young people understand what it means to have the ability to say no and be heard, to understand no and stop. Learn more about how to introduce children to the concept of consent through practical games and scenarios. Use the new relationships, sexual health and parenthood (RSHP) resource to promote children's self-confidence, respect for others and protection from harm.

### **3d Closing the gap in children's language and communication development**

*Alison Gooding, NHS Ayrshire and Arran*

This early years project aims to support all children's language and communication development. Its Communication Champions Network supports children, engages with families and develops communication friendly environments. Reflect on the impact the project has had on staff, children and families and explore how to further reduce the risk of language and communication difficulty at 27-30 months.

### **3f Inclusive play for children of all abilities**

*Danielle Campbell and Ivan Harper, The Yard*

The Yard are renowned for how their experienced and innovative disability and early years play professionals create inclusive play settings. Find out why, build your own confidence and feel empowered to deliver inclusive play. Explore practical examples, create and discuss easily adaptable play opportunities, ask questions and share your own ideas while playing with specially created resources.

## DAY TWO – Thursday, 7 November 2019

Workshop Session 1 (10.05am-11.05am)

### 1b **Capes and creativity: engaging reluctant young writers**

*Claire Heffernan, Super Power Agency*

Creative writing and individualised interaction can dramatically improve a young person's social-emotional skills. This interactive storytelling and bookmaking session will model fun and engaging ways to help reluctant writers. Create your own story using your own imagination – and learn how to apply the techniques used to your work with children and young people aged 8-18.

**Sponsor workshop:**

### 1c **Inspirational environments**

*Nikki Walters, Early Excellence*



If you work with children aged from 2-7 years, this is an opportunity to focus on what we mean by truly effective continuous provision. Revisit the principles, consider a fresh perspective and be inspired by innovative, exciting ideas. You will also have the chance to reflect on how to further develop your own enabling environments to support your children's self-initiated learning.

Workshop Session 2 (11.35am-12.45pm)

### 2b **Additional support for learning review: have your say**

*Angela Morgan, ASL Review and Sally Cavers, Children in Scotland*

Hear directly from Angela about how she will work to identify areas of good practice and further improvement in supporting children and young people with their learning. You will then share your thoughts and experiences of how ASL works in practice, working towards achievements and positive destinations, roles and responsibilities of staff, authorities and national agencies, and more, which will help to inform Angela's report.

### 2c **Welly boots and Baltic bairns: a collaborative approach to outdoor learning**

*Mairi Ferris, Inspiring Scotland, Gordon MacLean, Learning through Landscapes and Karen Kirke, Glasgow City Council*

Learning through Landscapes' child- and parent-led Nurturing Nature programme in Scotland helps early years settings to take staff, parents and children into local greenspace to support attachment and bonding through natural play. Supported by Inspiring Scotland, collaborative groups in Glasgow have improved outcomes for children through outdoor play. Go outside and experience hands-on the impact of these projects in promoting outdoor play and learning.

**Sponsor workshop:**

**3c It takes a village to raise a child: integrative working in a therapeutic setting for under 12s**  
*Lynsey Morrison, Angela Pilkington and Caroline Fleming, Kibble*



Understand the inner workings of what is involved to provide a trauma-informed approach for children in an under-12 residential and education placement. Learn how integrative services such as care, education and therapy come together and work collaboratively to support children and their families at Kibble.

**3d An honest conversation about 2020: survival in a complex change environment**  
*Alison Hay, CHANGE with early years practitioners from across local authority areas*

There is a feeling across the early years sector that the focus on getting to 2020 and delivering 1140 hours has not given sufficient thought to the impact this will have on practitioners. Join Alison for a no-holds-barred discussion on how issues such as lunches, parental engagement, ratios, and early intervention can impact staff wellbeing – and crucially, gain positive and practical ideas to support them.

**3e People change lives: building relationships through music**  
*Young people, parents, and staff from Sistema Scotland and Glasgow Centre for Population Health*

Explore the importance of relationships in supporting young people to thrive. Look in detail at the relationship between musicians and participants and how relationship-building is central to Sistema Scotland's core aim of transforming children's lives through music. Through a mix of performance, presentation and interviews, you will develop your understanding of positive relationship building.

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**Our other conference themes are:**



**Health and wellbeing**



**Participation, engagement and rights**



**Tackling inequalities**



**Organisational and workforce development**



**Supporting families and communities**