

CHILD AUSTRALIA PRESENTS



Early Childhood
Learning & Development
C O N F E R E N C E

GROW
...
CHANGE
...
THRIVE

Saturday 18 March, 2023

OPTUS STADIUM, PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA



CHILD AUSTRALIA PRESENTS
Early Childhood
Learning & Development
CONFERENCE

Welcome!...

While the pandemic forced the ECLD Conference into hiatus for 3 years, we're thrilled to be back... bigger and better than ever.

Today's Conference shines a light firmly on the very core of the Early Childhood Education & Care Sector... our Educators. This is an opportunity to come together with your colleagues, celebrate your collective strength, and for you to explore the latest research, practices, and resources that will truly enhance your own professional learning.

Our keynote and concurrent speakers are here today to share their stories, experience and passion, so that you leave feeling inspired, energised, and ready for action when you return to your workplace.

I congratulate each of you for showing up today! It is through our ongoing commitment to bringing our best selves that we can truly enrich the lives of children.

Enjoy the Conference,

Tina Holtom
Chief Executive Officer
Child Australia



We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on, the Whadjuk Noongar people.

We respect Elders past, present and emerging, their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.



Major Partner



Sundowner Partner



Supporting Partner

**BUSINESS
EVENTS
PERTH**

PLAN YOUR DAY...

7:30am	REGISTRATION				
8:00am	WELCOME Riverview Room 2/3				
8:15am	Rabia Siddique "The Power of One"				
9:00am	Dr Leanne Gibbs "A profession in crisis - the lessons of a global pandemic"				
10:00am	MORNING TEA Champions Terrace		&	EXHIBITIONS Riverview Room 1	
10:35am	BREAKOUT SESSIONS				
	Riverview Room 2 (A)	Riverview Room 3 (B)	Black Swan Room (C)	Cygnnet Room (D)	Victory Lounge (E)
11:30am	BREAKOUT SESSIONS				
	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)
12:25pm	LUNCH Sports Lounge		&	EXHIBITIONS Riverview Room 1	
1:30pm	Angus Gorrie "Why Play?"				
2:45pm	BREAKOUT SESSIONS				
	Riverview Room 2 (K)	Riverview Room 3 (L)	Black Swan Room (M)	Cygnnet Room (N)	Victory Lounge (O)
3:45pm	AFTERNOON TEA Champions Terrace		&	EXHIBITIONS Riverview Room 1	
4:15pm	Robbie Figg "Happiness & Positive Workplace Culture"				
5:00pm	SUNDOWNER Locker Room				

(A) Dr Leanne Gibbs

"Leading as a Practice - a different way to 'do' Leadership"

(B) Juan Larranga, Dr Lynne Millar, Karina Chicote - Minderoo

"Early Years Partnership: Government, Philanthropy and Research Working Together"

(C) Nicole Talarico - Talarico Consulting

"Relationships with your Spaces"

(D) Rhean Bates - GROW Therapy

"The therapeutic relationship transforming trauma behaviour & enabling children to thrive"

(E) Anna Crooks & Amanda Flynn - Treehouse Theraplay

"Playful, creative and non-verbal approaches to working with children and teens with neurodiversity, trauma and/or mental health concerns"

(F) Trina Bourke - Child Australia

"But I can't dance!"

(G) Lucy Murrell - C&K Salisbury Community Kindergarten

"Active Global Citizens: Empowering children in an ever changing world"

(H) Kayelene Kerr - eSafe Kids

"Teaching body boundaries, consent and respect in the Early Years"

(I) Christine Hutchinson - Australian Childhood Foundation

"Healing relational trauma through play"

(J) Dr Somayeh Ba Akhlagh - University of New England

"How culture influences children's development"

(K) Sarah Rheinberger - Sarah Rheinberger Consultancy

"'There's something going on here' - How early childhood educators can have tricky conversations with caregivers with confidence and kindness"

(L) Angus Gorrie - The Outsiders Play Advocates

"How playwork practice supports loose parts as a resource"

(M) Themia Litas & Leanne Crawford - Autism WA

"Integrating goals for children with autism into the Early Years Framework"

(N) Amanda Docksey & Simone Pedder - NT Department of Education

"Together thriving with the Families as First Teachers program"

(O) Gail Clark, Nadia Wilson-Ali, Gabrielle Cross, Connie Borg

- led by WA AEDC

"Using the Australian Early Development Census to support Quality Improvement Planning with the National Quality and Early Years Learning Frameworks"



Rabia Siddique ***The Power of One***

Keynote Presentation 1; Riverview Room 2/3

Rabia is an international humanitarian lawyer, retired British Army senior officer, former war crimes and terrorism prosecutor and hostage survivor. She has undertaken humanitarian aid work in Asia, South America, Europe and the Middle East, for which she was decorated by Queen Elizabeth II.

Rabia will bring her insightful and unique perspective to resilience, trauma and leadership. She is passionate about making the world a better place, giving a voice to the voiceless and lifting up those around her so that they may be the best version of themselves.



Dr Leanne Gibbs

A profession in crisis - the lessons from a global pandemic

**Keynote Presentation 2; Riverview Room 2/3
sponsored by Xplor**

Dr Leanne Gibbs has worked in the early childhood education and community sector for over 35 years and now works in the University sector in the early childhood space.

She has a PhD in ECE leadership, along with qualifications in education, public policy, politics, leadership and management, and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Leanne's roles have included teacher and director of ECE programs, adviser and manager with local, state and federal government, lecturer within higher education institutions and principal researcher.

Activation Partner



Media Partner





Angus Gorrie

Why Play?

Keynote Presentation 3; Riverview Room 2/3
sponsored by Busy Bees Early Learning

As a playworker and play advocate, Angus Gorrie is passionate about providing authentic play opportunities for children, wherever they may be, and pushing back against increased play deprivation and play bias.

Angus is currently working towards a Masters of Medical Research investigating how play (in the broadest sense) supports the mental health of children. He also spends his day as a practitioner working in a large OSHC Adventure Playground. It is this experience and the stories that come with working in a practical setting, combined with the theory and knowledge of study that shapes and guides Angus's perspectives and points of view.



Robbie Figg

Happiness & Positive Workplace Culture

Keynote Presentation 4; Riverview Room 2/3

Robbie Figg is the General Manager at Happiness Co. Having worked in teambuilding and culture for over 7 years, his three E's approach of Engagement, Environment and Education has seen Happiness Co work with the largest organisations in Australia and the world. Making mental health enjoyable is no easy task, but it is Robbie's objective every

time he steps in front of a group. His 2019 concept, the Employee Happiness Program, is the recipient of the Wellness Initiative of the Year for 2 years running and he is passionate about ensuring individuals leave our workshop interactions feeling empowered and enthusiastic about their workplace happiness.

Presentation Partners



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Some of our upcoming PDs



EYLF V2.0 webinar

With the release of the new EYLF V2.0, we discuss the changes that have been made, why they have been made, and suggest starting points for beginning a relaxed transition process that also offers opportunities for growth and reflection.

Online 4 April - \$25



Emerging Leaders Forum

Emerging Leaders is a 2-day series, designed to extend knowledge and challenge those who are seeking that next step within their career. This course is suitable for anyone wanting to be challenged and extend their career path in the ECEC sector.

Belmont WA, 29 & 30 March - \$499



Visit our Online Learning Centre, where you choose when and where you complete your Professional Development! Check out our latest self-paced courses and webcasts.

Community Programs



Bagot Aboriginal Community Partnership Program improves community engagement strategies focused on improving the outcomes of all Aboriginal residents of the Bagot Community.

Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) is a two-year home based, early learning and parenting program for families in Geraldton and South Hedland to build relationships and support their child's school readiness.



West Pilbara Mobile Children's Service (WPMCS) delivers a play-based learning program to young families in the West Pilbara region who are socially and geographically isolated with limited access to quality early childhood education and care programs.

Early Learning Services Western Australia

- Harrisdale Early Learning Centre
- Lockridge Campus (Early Learning Centre and Outside School Hours Care)

Northern Territory

- Anula Outside School Hours Care
- Bagot Community Outside School Hours Care
- Farrar Early Learning Centre
- Larapinta Child & Family Early Learning Centre
- Nightcliff Campus (Early Learning Centre and Outside School Hours Care)
- Palmerston Child & Family Early Learning Centre
- Wagaman Outside School Hours Care
- Wanguri Outside School Hours Care

Breakout Sessions: Riverview Room 2

Level 3; Sponsored by HESTA

10:35am	<p>Dr Leanne Gibbs <i>"Leading as a practice - a different way to 'do' leadership"</i></p> <p>'Leadership-as-practice' offers an opportunity to disrupt the narrative of the heroic, individual leader and offers the opportunity for educators to lead, regardless of their position. In this workshop we will unpack leadership-as-practice and consider how to enable practices of leading that contribute to process quality for children and equality and justice for ECEC communities.</p>
11:30am	<p>Trina Bourke - Child Australia <i>"But I can't dance!"</i></p> <p>Dance is innate in children; they are compelled by expression of emotions. They are intrinsically motivated to move to express thought, feelings, wonder, and to experience the pure joy of their bodies in motion. With an increasing body of research about the benefits of dance, not only for physical development, but also so for mental wellbeing, it is time to reframe dance as creative playful movement and understand how it can be available for everyone.</p>
2:45pm	<p>Sarah Rheinberger <i>"There's something going on here"</i></p> <p>Early childhood education and care professionals are at the forefront of knowing children in their care. But the conversation raising concerns with caregivers can be tricky, scary and uncomfortable. This presentation will workshop effective ways to confidently communicate concerns about a child's development to a caregiver in a supportive, kind and clear way.</p>

Breakout Sessions: Riverview Room 3

Level 3

10:35am	<p>Juan Larranga, Dr Lynne Millar, Karina Chicote - Minderoo <i>"Early Years Partnership: Government, Philanthropy and Research Working Together"</i></p> <p>The Early Years Partnership (EYP) established a ten-year partnership to bring community leaders, all levels of government, researchers, business and philanthropic organisations together to improve child well-being and school readiness in 4 WA communities and in doing so learn what it takes to create change for children across Western Australia.</p>
11:30am	<p>Lucy Murrell - C&K Salisbury Community Kindergarten <i>"Active Global Citizens: Empowering children in an ever changing world" - sponsored by Xplor</i></p> <p>In this presentation we will explore the neuroception of safety, the types of play experiences and environments that support healing from relational trauma and what else educators can do.</p>
2:45pm	<p>Angus Gorrie - The Outsiders Play Advocates <i>"How playwork practice supports loose parts as a resource"</i></p> <p>"Loose parts" have become quite the buzz word and this has very mixed outcomes. This session will bust some myths about loose parts and discuss, from a theoretical and practical perspective how they are best provided to children.</p>

Breakout Sessions: *Black Swan Room*

Level 2

10:35am	<p>Nicole Talarico - Talarico Consulting <i>"Relationships with your Spaces"</i></p> <p>We have a unique opportunity in our own contexts to immerse ourselves into a Pedagogy of the Third Space, rich in culture, belonging and possibilities. To do this effectively we need to determine what is relevant. Let's ignite a paradigm that prioritises a commitment to our spaces so we can all thrive.</p>
11:30am	<p>Kayelene Kerr - eSafe Kids <i>"Teaching Body Boundaries, Consent and Respect in the Early Years"</i></p> <p>Come explore child friendly, age-appropriate and practical ways to teach consent in the early years. Early childhood educators will be supported with books, resources and activity ideas to teach children about personal space and body boundaries, both theirs and others. This is crucial to a child's growing sense of self, their confidence and how they should expect to be treated by others.</p>
2:45pm	<p>Themia Litas & Leanne Crawford - Autism WA <i>"Integrating goals for children with autism into the Early Years Framework"</i></p> <p>Integrating goals for children with Autism into the Early Years Learning Framework. This presentation will allow the audience to explore Autism specific strategies and break down the barriers to inclusion.</p>

Breakout Sessions: Cygnet Room

Level 2

10:35am	<p>Rhean Bates - GROW Therapy <i>"The Therapeutic Relationship Transforming Trauma Behaviour & Enabling Children to Thrive"</i></p> <p>A deep dive into Clyde Fenton Primary School's becoming a therapeutic school. How the translation of the Play Based Therapy method into an expanded therapeutic relationship approach has resulted in radical changes in all school processes from the canteen to the curriculum.</p>
11:30am	<p>Christine Hutchinson - Australian Childhood Foundation <i>"Healing Relational Trauma through Play"</i></p> <p>This presentation will discuss the Active Global Citizen approach in early childhood and share an example of a project carried out at C&K Salisbury Community Kindergarten. The children found their voice and believed in the importance of sharing their thinking to help the planet.</p>
2:45pm	<p>Amanda Docksey & Simone Pedder - NT Department of Education <i>"Together thriving with the Families as First Teachers program"</i></p> <p>The Families as First Teachers (FaFT) program is a flagship program delivered by the Department of Education in the Northern Territory. The program aims to improve lifelong health, wellbeing and educational outcomes for children aged birth to five and their families. Core elements of the program include quality early learning, parent capacity building, and meaningful community engagement.</p>

Breakout Sessions: *Victory Lounge*

Level 2

10:35am	<p>Anna Crooks & Amanda Flynn - Treehouse Theraplay <i>"Playful, creative and non-verbal approaches to working with children and teens with neurodiversity, trauma and/or mental health concerns" - sponsored by CTAS Education</i></p> <p>Learn the evidence-based practices we use when working with children and adolescents who are neurodiverse, have experienced trauma and/or have mental health concerns. Whilst we have many trainings in our tool kit, the key thing that underpins the successful outcome for the families that we work with is our relationship with them.</p>
11:30am	<p>Dr Somayah Ba Akhlagh - University of New England <i>"How culture influences children's development" - sponsored by Connections FDC</i></p> <p>There is growing awareness and effort in Australian classrooms to understand, respect and support cultural differences, but are we starting early enough? During the hands on workshop I will be sharing different strategies of promoting cultural competence that practitioners can use when planning for children's learning and development.</p>
2:45pm	<p>Gail Clark, Nadia Wilson-Ali, Gabrielle Cross, Connie Borg - led by WA AEDC <i>"Using the Australian Early Development Census to support Quality Improvement Planning with the National Quality and Early Years Learning Frameworks"</i></p> <p>The Australian Early Development Census provides an evidence base to support early childhood services to plan for children's optimal development within their local context. Listen to experienced educators share their journey in using the AEDC to make a difference for families and their children.</p>

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Sundowner: Locker Room

Conclude your Conference experience and kick off your Saturday night right at Optus Stadium's exclusive Locker Room, with views straight across the stadium's grounds. Join your fellow delegates for drinks and nibbles and connect with industry professionals.

Enjoy a live performance by WA local folk singer/songwriter Helen Shanahan thanks to partners OneMusic Australia. Having supported the likes of Tim Minchin and Missy Higgins, Helen will share her heartfelt world of story, melody and guitar.



Enjoy a complimentary drink by using the token on the back of your name tag.

Don't miss our PRIZE DRAW

Connetix

CTAS Education

HESTA

Nature Play Solutions

Nature Trail Toys

Play in the Past

The Sensory Collective

Storypark

Twinkl

**Total prize pool
valued at \$3,500!
Thanks to our partners**

Sundowner Partners



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Career opportunities...

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Early Childhood Teacher (ECT)

Educational Leader

Lead Educator

Educator

Trainee

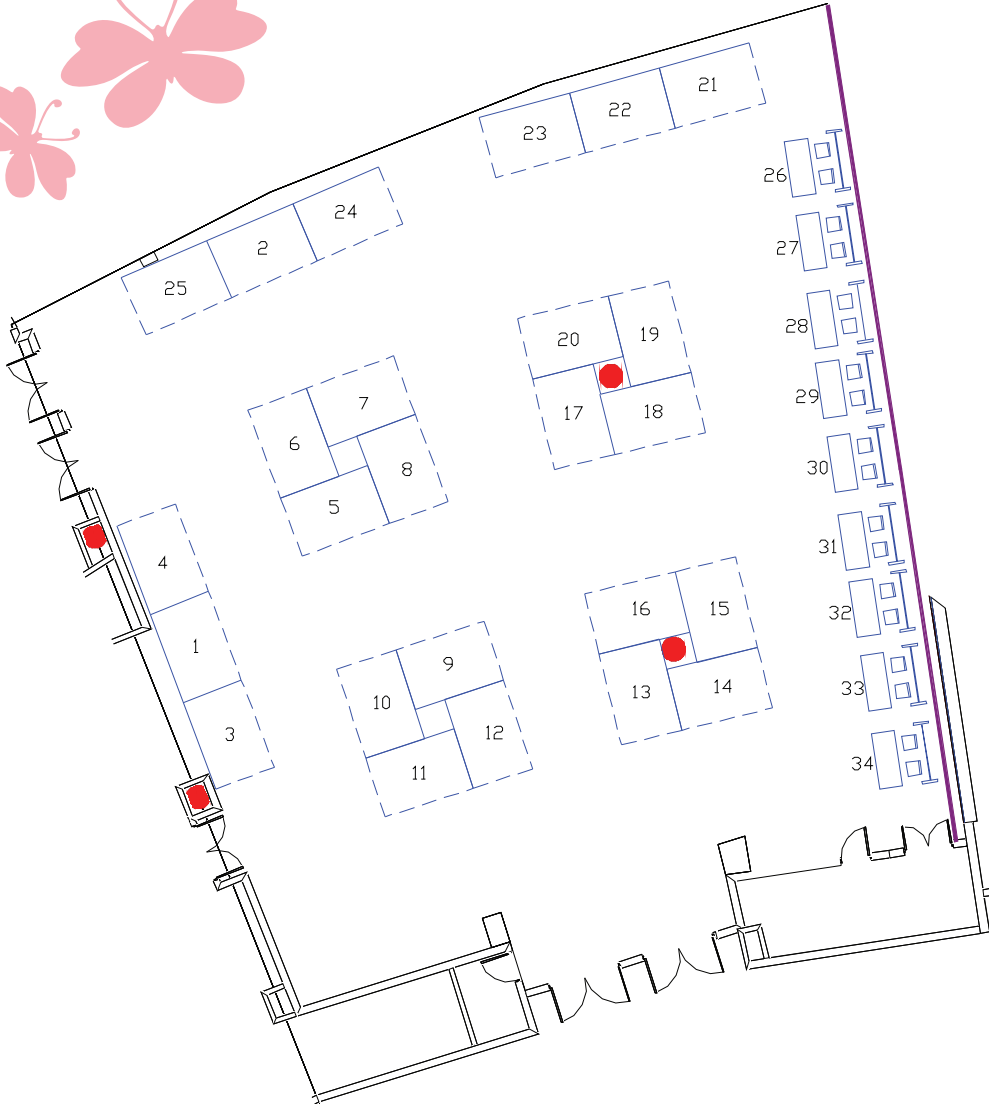
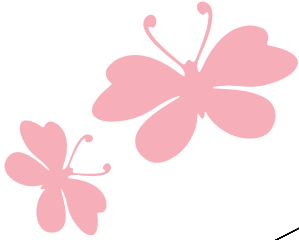


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The Playground: Riverview Room 1



Exhibitor list

1 Essential Resources	18 Be You
2 ANZUK Education	19 Mindful Meditation Australia
3 Kangarootime	20 Child Australia
4 G8 Education	21 Carewest
5 Thriving Minds Education	22 1Place
6 MercyCare	23 Department of Communities
7 Child Development & Behaviour Specialists	24 Nature Play Solutions
8 Wanslea	25 Cancer Council WA
9 Australian Early Development Census	26 LOGICO Australia (Eutoys)
10 Storypark	27 Nature Trail Toys
11 Busy Bees Early Learning	28 Play in the Past / The Sensory Collective
12 One Music	29 The Front Project
13 CTAS Education	30 Child Care CRM
14 Connetix Tiles	31 Ngala
15 HESTA	32 Jobs & Skills WA
16 Xplor	33 The Y WA
17 Child Australia	34 Guild Super / Child Care Super

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1Place

ANZUK Education

Australian Early Development
Census

Be You

Business Events Perth

Busy Bees Early Learning

Cancer Council WA

Carewest

Child Care CRM

Child Development &
Behaviour Specialists

Clayton Utz

Connections Family Day Care

Connetix Tiles

CTAS Education

Department of Communities

Essential Resources

G8 Education

Goodstart

Guild Super / Child Care Super

HESTA

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Kangarootime

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