



PLAY IN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING

PLAY AND MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE 2023

Opening Session

Introduction

Professor Paul Ramchandani, Director of the Centre for Research on Play in Education, Development and Learning (PEDAL), University of Cambridge

A future for the world's children? Play as the basis of a new paradigm for a world on fire.

Professor Mark Tomlinson, Co-Director of the Institute for Life Course Health Research in the Department of Global Health at Stellenbosch University

A vision for happy, healthy childhoods in the UK

Helen Hayes, Shadow Children's Minister and Labour MP for Dulwich & West Norwood

Late Morning Session

Breakout Session

Using video to support playful interactions and positive relationships

Healthy Start, Happy Start (PEDAL) & Playtime with Books (PEDAL)

OR

Targeted support to help families play in the early years

Play and Parental Engagement Patrick Myers & Norah Minshall, Thrive at Five

Prioritising play to protect against the harms of homelessness in pre-school children Jane Williams, The Magpie Project

Breakout Session

Playful approaches to research

Dr Beth Barker, Kelsey Graber, Sydney Conroy & Carolyn Mazzei (PEDAL)

OR

Supporting play for neurodivergent children

All he does is line things up: exploring neurodivergent self-directed play in early childhood Kerry Murphy

The Brick-by-Brick® programme: supporting children in the early years through collaborative LEGO® play

Play Included

The LEGO Foundation: Play and Mental Health

Yosha Gargeya, The LEGO Foundation
Head of Learning through Play (Interim)



Afternoon Session

Breakout Session

Prisons, Hospitals and Schools: Challenges and opportunities introducing play in different settings

Dr Paulina Pérez-Duarte (PEDAL), Dina Fajardo (PEDAL) & Mercedes Castañeda (Reinserta)

OR

Public health campaigns: supporting infant mental health through encouraging playful interactions

NSPCC: Look, Sing, Play Campaign Margaret Gallagher, NSPCC Strategic Services Manager: Local Campaigns

The small things that make a big difference: Better Start Bradford's experience

Alex Spragg, Programme Director at Better Start Bradford

Breakout Session

Understanding and supporting mental health in infancy & early childhood: A PEDAL and UNICEF UK toolkit

Sally Hogg, Senior Policy Fellow (PEDAL)

OR

Making Friends with Conflict: The power of play and the arts in uncertain times

Susan Harris MacKay, Co-Director of the Centre for Playful Enquiry

Closing Session

The Therapeutic Powers of Play: Play Therapy as a Mental Health Treatment

Siobhán Prendiville, Course Leader for the MA in Creative Psychotherapy (Humanistic & Integrative Modality) at the Children's Therapy Centre in Ireland.

The Complex Possibilities of Play in Schools

Dr James Biddulph FCCT FRSA (Executive Headteacher) & Aimee Durning MBE (Director of Inclusion and Community), University of Cambridge Primary School.

Close

Professor Paul Ramchandani, Director of the Centre for Research on Play in Education, Development and Learning (PEDAL)

Please note that there will be regular breaks throughout the day. Refreshments will be provided and we will end with a drinks reception.



