

The Well-Connected CHILD

Child's
Curriculum

Young children are connected emotionally and share experience with others, from birth. Our feelings and actions affect their capacities and learning. Through short talks, films and interaction, we aim to discuss the importance of connection to improve early years policy and practice, and how we can encourage the best possible parental and professional engagement.

Drawing on psychology, philosophy and policy research we explore together the imaginative and sociable nature of childhood and the relations between small children and their environment. We then discuss how this knowledge can translate into collaborative relationships in the early years field, by bringing together academic experts, policy-makers and practitioners from a wide range of backgrounds.

Wed 7 Nov 2012 6-8.30pm (GMT)

The Council Chamber,
Edinburgh City Chambers,
253 High St, Edinburgh EH1 1YJ,
United Kingdom

www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/4019103246

**ESRC
FESTIVAL
OF SOCIAL
SCIENCE**



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Programme

6.00pm to 6.20pm

'The Nature of Feeling Relations' *Dr. Pauline Phemister*

This presentation discusses ecological philosophy in many aspects of human life. Pauline's work develops contemporary ecological thought across the disciplines. She is Reader in Philosophy and Deputy Director of the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh.

6.20pm to 6.40pm

'Growing Brains Need Human Companions' *Prof. Colwyn Trevarthen FRSE*

Colwyn presents on the importance of shared experiences for learning, human relations and children's brain development. Colwyn is Professor (Emeritus) of Child Development and Psychobiology at the University of Edinburgh and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

6.40pm to 7.00pm

'Transforming Early Years in Scotland' *Alan Sinclair*

Alan's expertise is in the causes of chronic unemployment. His research shows disrupted family life and parental care was a root of long-term unemployment. He will discuss the positive model of Finnish health care and the connections that are developed between health professionals and parents. He was a Member of the Scottish New Deal Task Force, and a recent Churchill Fellow.

7.00pm to 7.30pm Refreshments

Activities for participants including small psychological tests used in infant research, video presentations and stands with posters.

7.30pm to 7.45pm The Well-Connected and Dis-Connected

Videos of social connection and disconnection in infancy.

7.45pm to 8.30pm Open Discussion chaired by Suzanne Zeedyk

The discussion aims to encourage a relational approach to agency work by bringing together academic experts, policy-makers and practitioners. Suzanne is an Honorary Fellow University of Dundee.

To register: www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/4019103246

