

**The Well-Connected Child:
Developing a relational approach for work with young children.**

SUII Seminars: May 2013 to October 2013 *The Well-Connected Child: Developing a relational approach for work with young children* –

We are organizing five one-day seminars to explore in depth topics, derived from our earlier meetings and professional work, related to current early years policy. The main themes are: the child's relations with people and places and the features of these important for health and learning, our innate human sense of morality and its spiritual dimension, and how policy and economic measures encourage growth and stability of early years relations or weaken them.

Programme

Seminar 1. The Child's Ecology of Relations

mid-May at Scottish Universities Insight Institute

- 9:00 Registration and Coffee
- 9:30 Introduction: Dr. Jonathan Delafield-Butt (Early Years, University of Strathclyde) and Dr. Ingela Naumann (Social Policy, University of Edinburgh)
- 9:50 **Speaker 1: Dr. Pauline Phemister**, 'Always an Ecology of Relations' (Philosophy, University of Edinburgh)
- 10:50 Open Discussion
- 11:00 Coffee, Fruit, Pastries
- 11:20 Coffee continued in Discussion Groups
- 11:40 **Speaker 2: Prof. Colwyn Trevarthen**, 'Innate Values of Self-in-Relation' (Psychology, University of Edinburgh)
- 12:40 Questions & Open Discussion
- 12:50 Lunch
- 13:50 **Speaker 3: Patricia Santelices**, 'Confidence and Security in Relations' (Director/Manager, Growing Confidence)
- 14:50 Open Discussion
- 15:00 Coffee, Fruit, Cake
- 15:20 Group Discussion
- 15:40 Presentations by Groups & Open Discussion, Chaired by Barbara Robertson
- 16:20 Panel of Four Speakers and Discussion Leads, Chaired by Barbara Robertson
- 16:50 Close of Session
- 17:00 Round-table Discussion w/ nibbles & wine
- 18:00 Dinner, Further Discussion.

Seminar 2. The Child's Social Environment
mid-June at Scottish Universities Insight Institute

- 9:00 Registration and Coffee
- 9:30 Introduction and Re-cap of Previous Seminar: Prof. Aline-Wendy Dunlop
- 9:50 **Speaker 1: Prof. Bruce Perry** 'The Core Affective Self: Its Neurobiology and Importance in Learning Social and Emotional Regulation for Health' (Psychiatry, Northwestern University, Chicago)
- 10:50 Open Discussion
- 11:00 Coffee, Fruit, Pastries
- 11:20 Coffee continued in group discussions
- 11:40 **Speaker 2: Dr. Jonathan Delafield-Butt**, 'Attuning Feelings and Emotions for Work with Children' (Early Years, University of Strathclyde).
- 12:20 Open Discussion
- 12:40 Lunch
- 13:40 **Speaker 3: Dr. Suzanne Zeedyk**, 'Supporting Infant-Parent and Child-Parent Connections' (Psychology, University of Dundee)
- 14:40 Open Discussion
- 14:50 Coffee, Fruit, and Cake
- 15:20 **Speaker 4: Kenny Spence**, 'Working With Individual Needs' (Gilmerton Child & Family Centre & Men in Childcare)
- 15:40 Open Discussion
- 15:50 Group Discussion
- 16:10 Presentations by Groups & Open Discussion, Chaired by Dr. John Davis (Education & Social Work, University of Edinburgh)
- 16:30 Panel of Five Speakers and Discussion Leads, Chaired by Dr. John Davis
- 17:00 Close of Session
- 17:00 Round-table Discussion w/ nibbles & wine
- 18:00 Dinner, Further Discussion.

Seminar 3. The Child's Natural & Built Environments

mid-July at Scottish Universities Insight Institute

- 9:00 Registration and Coffee
- 9:30 Introduction and Re-cap of Previous Seminar: Dr. Ingela Naumann
- 09:50 **Speaker 1: Prof. Catherine Ward Thompson**, 'The Impact of the Natural and Built Environments on Children's Emotions and Attention'
(Director OpenSpace Research Centre, University of Edinburgh)
- 10:50 Open Discussion
- 11:00 Coffee, Fruit, Pastries
- 11:20 Coffee continued in group discussions
- 11:40 **Speaker 2: Dr. Jenny Roe**, 'Positive Effects of Nature on Children's Learning and Mental Health' (Built Environment, Herriot Watt University, Edinburgh)
- 12:20 Open Discussion
- 12:40 Lunch
- 13:40 **Speaker 3: Claire Warden**, 'Nature Kindergartens' (Mindstretchers)
- 14:40 Open Discussion
- 14:50 Coffee, Fruit, and Cake
- 15:20 Open Discussion
- 15:50 Group Discussion
- 16:00 Presentations by Groups & Open Discussion, Chaired by Dr. Jonathan Delafield-Butt
(Early Years, University of Strathclyde)
- 16:20 Panel of Five Speakers and Discussion Leads, Chaired by Dr. Jonathan Delafield-Butt
- 16:50 Close of Session
- 17:00 Round-table Discussion w/ nibbles & wine
- 18:00 Dinner, Further Discussion.

Seminar 4. The Child's Moral Sense & Making Community

end-August at Scottish Universities Insight Institute

- 9:00 Registration and Coffee
- 9:30 Introduction and Re-Cap of Previous Seminar: Prof. Colwyn Trevarthen
- 9:50 **Speaker 1: Prof. Darcia Narvaez**, 'Sharing Moral Feelings and the Generation of Community' (Psychology, University of Notre Dame)
- 10:50 Open Discussion
- 11:00 Coffee, Fruit, Pastries
- 11:20 Coffee continued in group discussions
- 11:40 **Speaker 2: Malcolm Hill**, 'Children's participation in creating their communities of relations' (Social Work, University of Glasgow)
- 12:30 Open Discussion
- 12:50 Lunch
- 13:50 **Speaker 3: Dr. Philip Wilson**, 'The Importance of Community for Mental and Physical Health' (Health and Wellbeing, University of Aberdeen)_
- 14:40 Open Discussion
- 15:00 Coffee, Fruit, and Cake
- 15:20 Group Discussion
- 15:40 Presentations by Groups & Open Discussion, Chaired by Joan Martlew (Education, University of Strathclyde)
- 16:20 Panel of Four Speakers and Discussion Leads Chaired by Joan Martlew
- 16:50 Close of Session
- 17:00 Round-table Discussion w/ nibbles & wine
- 18:00 Dinner, Further Discussion.

Seminar 5. Early Childhood Education in Policy and Practice

early-October at Scottish Universities Insight Institute

- 9:00 Registration and Coffee
- 9:30 Introduction and Re-Cap of Previous Seminar: Kenny Spence
- 9:50 **Speaker 1: Prof. Gunilla Dahlberg**, ‘Ethics and Politics in Early Childhood Education’ (Department of Child and Youth Studies, University of Stockholm)
- 10:50 Open Discussion
- 11:00 Coffee, Fruit, Pastries
- 11:20 Coffee continued in group discussions
- 11:40 **Speaker 2: Dr Ingela Naumann**, ‘Children’s Access to Education and Learning Communities in International Comparison’ (Social Policy, University of Edinburgh)
- 12:30 Open Discussion
- 12:50 Lunch
- 13:50 **Speaker 3: Prof. Aline-Wendy**, ‘History of Scottish Early Years Cultures, Where We Are Today, and Where We Are Going.’ (Early Years, University of Strathclyde)
- 14:40 Open Discussion
- 15:00 Coffee, Fruit, & Cake
- 15:20 Group Discussion
- 15:40 Presentations by Groups & Open Discussion, Chaired by **Prof. Bronwen Cohen** (Social Policy, University of Edinburgh)
- 16:20 Panel of Three Speakers and Discussion Leads Chaired by Prof. Bronwen Cohen
- 16:50 Close of Session
- 17:00 Drinks Reception.
- 18:00 Final Dinner.

SUII Concluding Report & Briefing Preparation

end of October at the Scottish Universities Insight Institute

A final meeting of the core team members for summary of the series, preparation of the SUII Final Report, Report for the Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People, Tam Baillie, and the CRFR Briefing. Planning of Special Issue ‘The Well-Connected Child’ in peer-reviewed academic journal, if this is to go ahead, and future projects and needs arising.