

SEPT 8 & 9 8

VALUING EDUCATORS

'We are Professionals'

The conference for EDUCATORS that Connects, Informs & Elevates

Members
From \$120
Non Members
From \$240



Caroline Fewster



Prue Walsh



Dr Red Ruby Scarlet



Stephen Gallen



Jennifer Ribarovski



Dr Rachael Sharman



Hyahno Moser



Janet Kan



April Cunningham

Valuing Educators - 'We are professionals'

Friday Sept 8

Registrations 8.30am - 9am start Networking nibbles 6pm - 7pm Gourmet Sunset BBQ 7pm - 9pm

Saturday Sept 9

Registrations 8.00am - 8.30am start AOM 4pm - 4.30pm

This inspiring and innovative conference places you, the education and care professional, at the centre of this event. This unique conference **connects** educators from across the education and care profession. You will find common ground and explore content and issues that are at the forefront of every practitioner's mind.

You will hear from a range of education and care specialists; you will have the unique opportunity to interact with our content specialists in a relevant and reflective, solution-focused professional discussion on a topic of your choice. You will have the chance to contribute to these professional discussions and have your voice heard. Whether you choose to be a passive or active participant in the professional discussions, just by being present will **inform** your thinking and support your critical reflection of your programs, practices and more deeply about your role as an education and care practitioner.

This conference for educators will support you to recognise and draw on your own strengths and those of your colleagues by inviting educators to work collaboratively to draw on the individual and shared expertise. To **elevate** the work of the educator, to inspire, motivate and to grow in knowledge, skill and confidence as reflective and intentional education and care practitioners and professionals.

Friday

Mystery Service visit *It's a Mystery LDC, FDC, SAC*

Workshops

Interactive participatory delivery style **Curriculum Conversation**

Meeting Children's Play needs

Planning Responsive programs

Professional Discussions 3.00pm—6.00pm

Technology in Education and CareWith Dr Red Ruby Scarlet

Programming Autonomy
With Jennifer Ribarovski

Nature Based Learning With Nature Play QLD

Intentional Environments

With Caroline Fewster

Supportive school transitions

With Stephen Gallen

Yarning Circle

With April Cunningham & Narelle Dawson

Sunset Gourmet BBQ

Saturday

Keynotes

The Developing Brains Super Food With Hyahno Moser - Nature Play QLD

Risk and Resilience - Essential Life Skills
With Dr Rachael Sharman

Workshops

Interactive participatory delivery style

Intentional Environments

With Caroline Fewster

Let's look at new possibilities for intentionally designed spaces and places for babies and toddlers!

Supporting Positive transitions to school

With Stephen Gallen

Professional Relationships—A Matter of Respect

Nature Based Learning

Dr Rachael Sharman

Child's Play: The importance of Nature

Programming Autonomy

With Jennifer Ribarovski

What goes down must come up? Pushing up the early childhood agenda.

Good Practice from the field

ECW Collective practitioners & EC practitioners

Stories from the field

- 100 - 1 - 100 -

Annual open Meeting

Friday September 8th

Mystery Service Visits

As practitioners, we are always on the lookout for some inspiration. Some fresh ideas and ways of working that will inform our own practices. Often the inspiration comes from others and the best way to learn from others is to see how others work. So we have organised some local service visits for you to experience firsthand some of the wonderful ideas and practices that occur every day in local services. Where you are going is the mystery! When registering, identify your preferred service type and you will be whisked away to explore 2 services, enjoy a lovely picnic lunch and take in some of the beautiful Gold Coast scenery. As these visits are in operating hours, numbers will be restricted.

or

Friday Workshops

Interactive participatory delivery style

Curriculum Conversation

With Dr Red Ruby Scarlet & Stephen Gallen

Generating curriculum is a community practice. In this session Stephen and Red will strike up a clutch of curriculum conversations that will focus on practices of noticing, sharing, collective thinking, storytelling and writing. Participants will be invited to contribute to these curriculum conversations to grow the ideas and entwingle our collective knowledge and experiences of authentic early childhood education

Meeting children's play needs—Current and Future direction With Prue Walsh

Emphasis to current practices and the future direction of play settings and their capacity to meeting and enhancing children's play needs is the theme of this presentation. The design and outcome of physical environment on children's learning, impact on service delivery including teaching practice and the need for future direction will be the prime objective of this presentation.

Planning Responsive programs

With Janet Kan

Responsive to whom? What do we need to know in order to do our job well? As the world around us has changed, so too, our surviving birth population has changed. Not all children grow or develop the same way today. Come and hear about the changes that have occurred over the last few decades, the implications of this change and how we might adapt to meet the needs of today's children and their families.

Professional Discussions

Discussion topics – questions posed are suggestions only and participants at each discussion will have the opportunity to consider a question more aligned to their burning issues within the content area.

Technology in Education and Care

With Dr Red Ruby Scarlet

Impact of Technology on learning and practices

As professionals you are hearing about the impacts of blue light on children's developing brains, the lack of physical activity and sensory deprivation. We are now immersed in the age of technology, it's presence can be all consuming how can we incorporate technology into our programs, what are the impacts on children's development and the learning programs in our settings.

As digital immigrants and digital natives our levels of knowledge, expertise and engagement in technology varies. As does our opinions about the advantages and disadvantages of embracing technology to support our learning programs. Let's get some facts to assist us to make informed decisions.

Is technology making our work easier or taking us away from the import work of building relationships with children? How do we find the balance?

Programming Autonomy

with Jennifer Ribarovski

Achieving pedagogical autonomy in the face of external influences and challenges

As professionals you recognise the importance of providing programs that offer children real autonomy. You know that children learn best through play yet the push for school readiness translates into formal learning models being endorsed and enforced.

How can you deliver programs you know support children's learning within these parameters?

Supporting positive transitions to school

with Stephen Gallen

Supporting positive transitions to school

As an Education and Care practitioner your role is to scaffold children's learning and development through the provision of rich, nurturing and age appropriate learning programs. You need to have a sound knowledge of child development, be intentional and recognise those opportunities for learning. Knowing what and when to observe, support, extend or refer can have a significant impact on children's learning. As an education and care professional you have a responsibility to provide programs that will afford all children the best possible start to formal schooling and the push to include formalised learning experiences in your programs can be hard to deny.

How can you resist the push for formalised learning and advocate for a program that affords children more opportunities for extended play?

Intentional Environments

With Caroline Fewster

Environments designed with intention

Environments are the third teacher and the impact of quality environments on the potential of learning programs requires careful consideration, planning and intent to ensure you have all the necessities for a great learning environment. Whether working in an adapted, shared community or purpose-built space there will be aspects of these spaces that pose a challenge to the program.

How can you embrace, adapt or even find ways to ensure your spaces are not only conducive to children learning but will also invite and inspire children to engage?

Nature based learning

With Nature Play QLD

Nature based learning

Bush and forest learning programs have a growing following in education and care across the world and many practitioners in Australia are now embracing the outdoors to extend on their learning programs for children. For many practitioners, this has been welcomed with open arms while others feel conflicted even inhibited by formalised education thinking and policies.

What does the research tell us about the benefits of the outdoors for children's learning and development and should the outdoors and nature based learning have a more prominent place in education and care programs?

Yarning Circle - Beginning the Journey

With April Cunningham & Narelle Dawson

Relax, unwind and join April and Narelle in a Yarning circle near the tranquil lake. Where you will yarn about being authentic in your approach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander inclusion and explore what this looks, feels and sounds like in an education and care setting.

Sunset Gourmet BBQ

Great food, stimulating conversations with friends and colleagues in the beautiful outdoors on a gorgeous spring evening on the stunning Gold Coast. What a wonderful end to the day. Relax and unwind as you watch the sun slowly set over the manicured lawns, plush grounds and pristine lake. What more could you ask for?

Saturday Opening Keynote

The Developing Brains Super Food

By Hyahno Moser - Nature Play QLD

Nature Play is as important for growing bodies and brains as adequate nutrition, love and care. However children's love for this important developmental tool (nature play) is interrupted by screens. During this discussion we will explore how media and constant connectivity is rewiring the developing brain, as well as unpack how Nature Play perfectly supports all areas of children's development

Saturday Workshops

Intentional Environments

With Caroline Fewster

Let's look at new possibilities for intentionally designed spaces and places for babies and toddlers! An invitation to explore a Pop Up exhibition of contemporary play and learning experiences especially designed for Babies and Toddlers.

Drawing inspiration from contemporary approaches to early childhood education and contemporary views of play helps us to recognise the complexity as well as the potential for teaching and learning experiences.

The concept of the physical environment designed especially for babies and toddlers promotes the idea as their world being an invitation to experience.

Provisioning the spaces and places with objects and materials that invite each child to Interact, awaken their curiosity and invoke a sense of wonder through a rich multitude of play and learning possibilities.

Programming Autonomy

With Jennifer Ribarovski

What goes down must come up? Pushing up the early childhood agenda.

As early childhood professionals we have extensive experience and expert understanding about children's learning and development, and about how quality early childhood practice supports this. In our work with children, we also partner with families and the community, who often see early childhood education, and what children need, in a very different way. How can we protect play based and strengths based approaches that value young children's uniqueness and autonomy against the rising tide of the formal school readiness agenda? In a climate of increasing pressure to bring formal academic learning models into the early childhood space, how can we protect the rights of children to develop their identity and confidence and lay the foundations for successful future learning. This workshop will empower educators to harness their collective professional knowledge and develop strategies to push the early childhood agenda back up against the rising pressure of a push down curriculum.

Supporting Positive transitions to school

With Stephen Gallen

Professional Relationships—A Matter of Respect

As an early childhood educator you are a professional, with deep knowledge about the individual children you work with as well as about how young children learn and develop best, and what sorts of programs and approaches support this. At the same time, you face many challenges in communicating this effectively and in working in partnership with families, schools and other professionals to support the best outcomes and experiences for children. The expectations for formal schooling, concerns about the pace of change and the type of future waiting for children all combine to create pressures and anxieties which can work against your professional beliefs and values.

How can we communicate the value of our professional approaches and practices more powerfully? And how can we engage in meaningful relationships and conversations with families, other professionals and the broader community where our professional voices and experiences are heard, valued and respected?

Good Practice from the field

With ECW Collective Practitioners and EC practitioners from the field

Hear from experienced Practitioners about their innovative practices, what was their motivation, explore the challenges and successes. This session will provide a safe space for you to explore the content with these experienced educators, discover new ways of being and overcome the everyday challenges.

Child's Play: The importance of Nature

Dr Rachael Sharman

Outside the plastic-fantastic, fake and trendy playground, lies the best teacher of all, free of charge. This talk will discuss some exciting new research around nature play, as well as unstructured play, and how both are thought to better engage the developing mind.

Closing Keynote How to Build Motivation and Resilience By Dr Rachael Sharman

Current generations of children are more hyper-protected, mollycoddled and pandered to than ever before. Rather than the well-intentioned outcome of providing a safe and sanitised childhood, this style of caregiving has resulted in an anxious, fragile and risk-averse population of young people, with mental illness in this generation skyrocketing to record highs. This talk will discuss the importance of risk-taking, failure, and developing adaptive coping mechanisms in childhood, and how educators can create opportunities for resilience-building in this nervous cohort of parents and children.

Venue - Lakelands Golf Club

100 Lakelands Drive (off Gooding Drive), Merrimac. Gold Coast 4226

A multi award winning venue and clubhouse, set upon Australia's first Jack Nicklaus signature Golf Course, makes Lakelands a unique choice of venue. Function rooms feature floor to ceiling windows, a fresh garden outlook, lake views direct access to the outdoors and expansive wrap-around balcony overlooking the stunning views.



Accommodation

Signature Waterfront Apartments is just a 1 minute stroll along the lake at 135 Lakelands Dr Merrimac These fully self-contained 2 Bedroom luxury apartments sleep 3 adults comfortably. At under \$100 p/person at just \$280 for the first night. Book a 2nd night and this comes down to under \$65p/person per night at just \$380. To reserve your accommodation here call John on 07 55106666

Introducing the Content Specialists

Caroline Fewster

Before developing Bond University's Bachelor of Children's Services' programme, Caroline enjoyed a long and varied career working in a wide range of Children's Services' care and teaching situations starting as a pre-school teacher in ACT progressing to advisory and consultancy roles with regional and government education authorities. Her experience encompasses all aspects of early childhood learning from classroom teaching to managing services and from educating future teachers to consulting and developing professional development programmes. She continues to consult for a range of non-government community-based and corporate organisations, local state and the Commonwealth government offering early childhood educators a wealth of real world knowledge combined with high level qualifications and superior teaching skills.

Jennifer Ribarovski

Jennifer Ribarovski has over thirty years' experience in the education and care sector as a teacher and in governance. She is the Managing Director of JR Education Consulting Services and holds a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) and a Master of Educational Leadership and Management with Distinction. Her previous roles have included State Operations Manager for the NSW Regulatory Authority, with her work largely focussed on the roll out and implementation of the NQF in NSW, and training Authorised Officers to assess and rate centres against the NQS. She was then contracted to work for ACECQA as a senior advisor. She has a unique ability to translate the theories of early childhood learning and development into pedagogical practice in accessible and supportive ways. Jennifer is currently contracted to Sydney University to design and deliver units of study to both undergraduate and postgraduate students in early childhood education programs.

Stephen Gallen

Stephen has over 26 years' experience in the ECEC sector as a teacher and educator, consultant, leader and facilitator. He has taught and worked across SAC, home based care, kindergarten and primary school, but his primary focus has been in long day care, including over twelve years as a contact educator. He has consulted and delivered for Workforce Council, Gowrie Qld, TAFE, QUT, C&K and many other organisations. Some of his main interests include the ways in which educators and children can create possibilities and power in their pedagogy, work and lives together as well as social justice, advocacy and inclusion.

Dr Red Ruby Scarlet

Dr Red Ruby Scarlet is an artist, early childhood teacher, academic and activist. She has been working in early childhood for over 25 years and is devoted to creative, imaginative, inclusive practices. She has developed curriculum and learning frameworks nationally and Internationally. She has published widely foregrounding the stories of the numerous 'teacher-research' and 'research with children' projects she has lead and contributed to across the world. Arts practice is central to how she undertakes her approach to early childhood professional development and research.

She is currently the Creative Director of MultiVerse – a professional development organisation committed to arts, inclusive pedagogies and curriculum and resourcing. Red plays a leadership role in the Social Justice in Early Childhood group and she currently editing the 3rd Edition of The Anti-Bias in Early Childhood Approach.

Dr Rachael Sharman

Dr Rachael Sharman is a lecturer and researcher in psychology, specialising in child/ adolescent development, her research is focused on the optimal and healthy development of the paediatric brain, and has covered the neuro/psychological impacts of: dietary practices of parents and their children; physical activity; obesity; sport participation; attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; genetic disorders; concussion and childhood trauma. Rachael remains committed to research that ensures children have the best possible chance to meet their full potential. Her current interests include: dietary impacts on cognitive/ psychological development; children's play opportunities and nature-play; resilience-building features of risky play; child protection issues including sex abuse and trafficking; adolescent engagement with social media; transitions from education to the workplace.

Hyahno Moser

Like most children of his generation, Hyahno spent most of his leisure time outside, therefore it came as no surprise to his family when he choose a career in Outdoor Education. For 10 years, Hyahno was involved in devising, facilitating, teaching and leading young people through world-class, outdoor education programs, using adventure and nature to teach children vital life-skills. Hyahno is passionate about nature play and believes the Nature Play program is a positive and practical way to ensure children participate in unstructured play in nature, delivering the myriad of benefits this type of play offers their physical and emotional health.

Prue Walsh

From her initial early childhood training Prue's professional work has covered a wide range of early childhood settings both nationally and internationally with emphasis on physical environment provision covering sites, buildings and playgrounds. Further insight as to the involvement and outcomes of other disciplines and their impact on the early childhood field has led to Prue's transdisciplinary skills, extensive advocacy on behalf of children and their physical environments and the need to achieve greater emphasis for early childhood leadership on early childhood issues. Prue is the author of the internationally published Early Childhood Playgrounds, planning an outside learning environment.

April Cunningham

April is a proud descendant from the Noonuccal people of the Quandamooka nation from North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah) who was born in Brisbane.

April is a passionate about sharing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures with others. She believes in keeping the spirit alive of these two rich cultures; we need to educate the children of today, parents, families, educators and fellow Australians. April intends to connect, share her knowledge, deep respect and passion with you, so you too can feel, understand, respect and embed the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives into your services. Her vision is for justice and equality in humanity.

April has been fortunate enough to work with Sue Inglis at Pelican Waters Golden Beach Kindergarten embedding cultural perspectives after she embarked travelling globally with an Indigenous performing company teaching children about these two rich cultures through song and dance. April has recently been embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives and reaching out to services across South-East QLD on Action Research Project focused on "Standing up for a Natural Childhood".

Janet Kan

Janet began her career as an Early Childhood Teacher in Alice Springs, where her interest in inclusive practices led to further studies. She completed a Master of Early Childhood Education at QUT in 2000 with a focus on typical and a-typical development meeting individual educational needs. Janet joined the multidisciplinary Neonatal Growth and Development Clinic at Mater Health Services in 2004 at the invitation of the founder, Professor David Tudehope. Janet also provides learning support to children in Queensland State Schools.

Introducing the Collective Practitioners

ECW Collective Practitioners are experienced practitioners, education and care professionals and leaders in the field. They will have a significant role in the conference hosting the professional discussions with the content specialists and sharing stories of good practices from the field along with other identified education and care professionals.

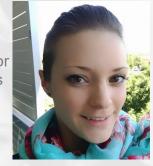
Narelle Dawson



I have worked at Bribie Island Community Kindergarten 22 years and have been the full-time Teacher and Director of our beautiful service since completing the Bch Education Early Childhood in 2002. One of my proudest moments in the course of my time working with children and families has been leading Bribie Community Kindy into a position where in Feb 2014 and again in 2017 we earned the 'Excellent' rating awarded by ACECQA, in 2015 C and K's Service Leadership award and in 2016 was awarded C and K's Excellence and Innovation in Pedagogy and Practice award.

Loretta Davis

I've worked in early education for just under a decade now. My studies in Early Childhood have greatly influenced not only my knowledge, but my practices. I've worked in a variety of services reflecting a variety of roles such as assistant, room leader, 3IC/Education and Operations Coordinator and am now moving into a new role of Publications Assistant. A few years ago I found a big passion within myself for children's rights, which stemmed from what I was learning in my studies. A big focus of mine is adapting and reflecting upon our practices to consider the effects on children's rights and the UNCRC. I particularly enjoy engaging in



professional conversations and wonderment about our everyday experiences and journeys.

Amy Pannell



Amy Pannell is currently an In Home Care Coordinator in Brisbane. Amy has a Bachelor of Education (Primary) and most recently a Cert IV in Frontline Management. Amy's background includes Teaching in a Montessori College, Assistant and Relief Coordinator at Outside School Hours Care and In Home Care Coordinator. Amy has been a member of a number of committees including the National Peak Body for In Home Care - The Australian Home Childcare Association (AHCA). This involved a number of trips to Canberra to lobby politicians to increase In Home Care funding. travelling to Melbourne and Sydney to meet with other In Home Care services and liaising with Queensland In Home Care services.

Collective Practitioners con't



Olivia Vollbrecht

Olivia Vollbrecht has been working with children since 2006. A humble practitioner with huge passion. Olivia's year long participation in an Action Research project in 2010 that focused on 'Capacity Building through Risky Play,' which led to an ongoing interest in researching current theories and practices. Olivia has worked as a practitioner in School Age Care, Family Day Care and is currently a Director for a beautiful community run Long Day Care Centre in Ipswich. She uses her experience in the various sectors to explore different models of care to continue her research and support her desire to advocate for children and best outcomes.

Wendy Anderson has been working in the Education and Care sector since 2001. She is a Coordinator and Educational Leader with Choices Family Day Care in QLD. Wendy holds her Advanced Diploma and is a qualified Workplace Trainer & Assessors to the Advanced Diploma level. She has worked in LDC, FDC and as a Teachers Aid. Wendy believes that all children should have the same access to high quality education and care and advocates strongly for equality and children's rights.

Wendy Anderson



Sponsors and Exhibitors



Further details on sponsors, exhibitors and delegates prizes will be released through the ECW Facebook conference event page .



Delegate prizes



Recycled Mat Recycled mats are a must-have addition to the early learning classroom, making teaching about diversity easy, practical and fun. Early readers will love this soft, warm space to share a story, whilst babies can explore textures and visual stimulation during tummy time.



Phoenix Cups Kit

Includes: 1 x mounted foyer piece Cups artwork,

5 x polypropylene Cups Whiteboard Strategy Posters,

1 x Cups 'You can't pour from an empty cup' staff motivational poster,

1 x fully comprehensive workbook to support you to implement the Cups framework ,

1 x 5 pack of Cups reflection cards,

1 x Whiteboard Marker and

1 x Cups tote bag





Valuing Educators - 'We are professionals'		
Attendee Name Position Special Dietary or access needs	Mobile Personal Email	
Employer	Wrk Ph	
Address	Email	
Suburb	Post code State	
Single day Registration (excludes networking drinks and BBQ Dinner) Attending Friday only add drinks and dinner Includes yearning circle Mystery Service visit (stand alone / priority will be given to full/day conference delegates) Full conference Registration Early Bird Full Conference Registration Register and pay Add annual ECW Membership Name on Card M/Card Visa Signature Expiry MM YY CCN	Saturday Saturday Sizo.oo Siz	
Friday Sept 8		
You can choose from a service visit OR the following workshops		
Mystery Service vist (prioritise service visit 1 highest - 3 lowest) LDC FDC SAC	Workshops (Includes all 3 workshops) Curriculum Conversation with Dr Red Ruby Scarlet & Stephen Gallen Quality spaces with Prue Walsh Responsive Programs with Janet Kan	





Friday Sept 8 con't		
Professional Discussions (Prioritise your preference 1 highest - 6 lowest - Every effort will be made to 6	ensure delegates can participate in their prefered conversation)	
Tecnology in Education and Care with Dr Red Ruby Scarlet Nature based learning with Nature Play QLD Achieving programming autonomy with Jennifer Ribarovski	Inentional Environments With Caroline Fewster Supportive school transitions with Stephen Gallen Children with Special Considerations with Janet Kan	
(Full conference delegates only)		
Yarning Circle - Starting the conversations OR with April Cunningham & Narelle Dawson	Networking drinks and nibbles	
Sunset Gourmet BBQ - Included in full conference package Y/N Please indicate if you will be joining us for the BBQ	ge	
Saturday Sept 9		
Workshops (Prioritise your preference 1 highest -5 lowest - Every effort will be made to e	nsure delegates can participate in their prefered workshop)	
Relationships - Foundations of all that we do with Stephen Gallen	Intentional Environments - Babies and Toddlers with Caroline Fewster	
Nature based learning	Good Practice from the field -	
Dr Rachael Sharman	Hear from a range of EC practice specialists	
Achieving programming autonomy with Jennifer Ribarovski		
AOM (Optional) - Open to all ECW members	Y/N Attending the Annual Open Meeting Y/N	
THANK YOU for choosing professionalism 'Together we can grow our professional footprint' ©		
Confirmation of Registration can not be given until payment Payment MUST BE MADE 14 days prior to the event for p Inside of 14 days registration IS transferrable. NOT Cancellation fee of \$25.00 applies to all cancella	refundable Payment to be made to: Australian Education and	

Refunds will only be issued if cancellation is received 14 days prior to the event

Attendences not paid for in full 7 days prior event will be charged \$50 late fee

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