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.