



Voices of Children Pedagogy™: Global Perspectives in Research & Practice

For Consideration in the **Journal of Early Childhood Research Supplement** (Scheduled for Publication: December 2026)

Author Guidelines – Research Papers, Case Studies & Practice Papers

Accepted manuscripts may be considered for publication in a **Special Edition Supplement of the *Journal of Early Childhood Research*** (subject to editorial review) and may also be selected for presentation as an oral or poster presentation at the [Annual Bright Start International Conference](#) (19–21 November 2026), delivered online and in person in London and Abu Dhabi.

Authors are kindly requested to review the following guidelines to ensure compliance with publication requirements.

1. Submission Procedure

Step 1: Complete the [Journal Manuscript Submission Form](#) as soon as possible.

Step 2: Following completion of the Journal Manuscript Submission Form, submit your full manuscript (.docx) by 4 September 2026 in accordance with the Journal Author Guidelines.

Submission format: One Word document (.docx)

Maximum length: 4 pages (including references, tables, and figures)

Email submission to: conference@brightstartfoundation.org

Email subject line format: Voices of Children Pedagogy™ – Submission for the Journal of Early Childhood Research – FIRST AUTHOR'S SURNAME

Upon receipt, authors will receive confirmation by email.

The manuscript submitted by the stated deadline will be considered the final version.

Authors are therefore requested to ensure that the document has been thoroughly reviewed and fully aligned with the submission guidelines prior to submission.

2. Ethical & Legal Requirements

By submitting a manuscript, authors confirm that:

- They hold the necessary rights and permissions for all submitted content.
- All co-authors have consented to submission and potential publication.
- Any conflicts of interest have been declared within the manuscript.
- The material does not infringe copyright, contain defamatory content, or violate any existing licence or agreement.
- All factual statements are accurate and supported by evidence to the best of the authors' knowledge.



- Appropriate parental/guardian consent has been obtained where children’s work, images, or voices are included (where applicable).

Authors remain fully responsible for clearing all copyright and permissions prior to publication. By submitting a manuscript, authors confirm that the work has not been previously published and is not currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

3. Submission Format

Final File Requirements

- The final submission must be provided as **one Word document (.docx)**.
- Maximum length: **4 pages (including references, tables, and figures)**.
- The document must be formatted in a **single-column layout**.

Formatting Specifications

To ensure consistency across submissions, authors must adhere to the following format:

- **Font:** Times New Roman
- **Font size:** 12-point
- **Line spacing:** 1.5
- **Margins:** Standard (2.5 cm / 1 inch on all sides)
- **Page size:** A4
- **Alignment:** Left-aligned
- **Headings and titles:** Bold (no numbering required)
- **Decorative formatting, text boxes, or multi-column layouts are not permitted.**

4. Author(s) and Affiliation(s)

- Ensure consistency in author name presentation (e.g. “A. Smith” — use one format consistently).
- Authors and affiliations should be listed sequentially rather than each on a separate line.
- If multiple authors share the same affiliation, indicate it only once.

5. Structure of the Submission (Guidance)

To support coherence across research and practice-based submissions, it is recommended that submissions include:

- Title
- Author(s) and affiliation(s)
- Context and purpose
- Description of approach or methodology (where applicable)
- Key insights, findings, or reflections
- Implications for practice, policy, or research
- References (APA 7th Edition, where applicable)



Authors may adapt structure according to the nature of their work (empirical study, conceptual paper, or practice-based case study).

6. Conflict of Interest & Funding Declarations

Authors must include the following statements at the end of the manuscript, before the References section:

Conflict of Interest

If no conflict exists, please state:

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

If a conflict exists, it must be clearly disclosed.

Funding (if applicable)

Authors should indicate any funding sources that supported the work.

7. Figures and Tables

If including figures or tables:

- Captions must not be embedded within image files.
- Captions must be written in full and included in the Word document.
- Figures may be submitted as JPEG or TIFF files.
- Tables must be provided in Word or Excel format (not as images).
- Tables submitted as image files cannot be reformatted and will appear exactly as provided.

8. Editorial Responsibility

Publication is subject to final editorial approval and compliance with publication standards. Manuscripts will be typeset in the form in which they are submitted. No copyediting will be undertaken by the publisher. Authors are therefore responsible for ensuring linguistic accuracy, reference consistency, and full compliance with the submission guidelines prior to submission. Final editorial responsibility for typesetting, and online distribution lies with the publisher.

9. Authorship & Registration Requirements

- A maximum of five (5) authors may be listed per submission.
- In the case of multiple authors, at least two authors must be registered participants of the 2026 Bright Start International conference (online or in person).
- At least one registered author must present the work if accepted for oral or poster presentation (online or in person).



Each manuscript must independently meet the minimum registration requirement of two registered authors. Registrations used to fulfil this requirement for one manuscript cannot be applied to another manuscript.

**Bright Start Foundation
Geneva, 18 February 2026**