SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2026 · Sessions · London (in person) · Global live transmission

London (GMT+0)	Vision Room	Nurture Room	Mosaic Room	Discovery Room
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM			**The Science and Practice of Play: Connecting Brain Development, Curiosity and Children's Agency** **Kathryn Murray** ONLINE, Australia · **Travis Morgan**, Alabama	**Beyond the Gallery Walls: Museums, Cultural Institutions and Families as Partners in Early Learning** Chair: **Ania Bas**, United Kingdom **Michell Hackwelder** ONLINE, United Arab Emirates
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM		**Every Child Has a Voice - But Are We Listening?** **Michelle Reid, Jenny Hemming**, United Kingdom		
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	**Honouring Excellence in Early Learning: The Khalifa International Award and the Global Stories It Champions** **Susan Place Everhart, Gillian West**, United Kingdom			
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM		**Growing Up with Conflict: Bridging the Gap Between Education, Family Relationships and Justice** **Katy Harris, Penny Willis**	**Computational Thinking at Play: growing critical thinking and problem solving skills** **Mandy Andrews**, United Kingdom · **Lea Ann Christenson**, United States	**OECD Global Action Dialogues – From Dialogue to Action: Future of Early Childhood Education Leadership Forum** Chair: **James Searjeant**, United Kingdom Co-Chair: **Sean Slade**, United States OECD Lead Discussant: **Esme Stout** Dialogue contributors: **H.E Humaid AlHouti**, United Arab Emirates · **Ayse Cobanoglu**, Türkiye · **Kay Gallagher**, United Arab Emirates · **Mary Gordon**, Canada · **Liz Gregory**, United Kingdom · **Axel Mallmann**, United Arab Emirates · **Nasiba Hamroyeva**, Uzbekistan · **Sana Zulqarnain, Khurram Shahzad**, Pakistan · **Dr. Rita Mbeba**, Tanzania · **Fathiya Aish**, Bahrain · **Lisa Low, Nikky Gibson**, United Kingdom · **Claudio Vanhees, Tim Surma**, Belgium · **Priyanka Devani, Katie Cohen**, United Kingdom · **Shuchi Sharma**, India
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM			**Using Purposeful Play Communities of Practice as a Training Modality for Families and Teachers** **Crystal Loose, Subarna Basu**, United States	
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM	**Voices of Children Pedagogy™ Summit** Chair: **Eirini Gkouskou**, United Kingdom Co-Chair: **Nahla Gahwaji**, Saudi Arabia **Mai Abdulkareem, Shahd Qutub, Sama Khomais, Soha Alfahal**, Saudi Arabia	**Carnival as Children's Native Play Culture: Rights, Recognition and the Limits of Outcome-Driven Pedagogy** **Vince MacLeod**, United Kingdom	**Being visionary for vulnerable children in education** **Rebecca Tarplett, Louise Lawton**, United Kingdom	
12:30 PM - 1:00 PM		**Early Literacy in Context: Bridging Home and Kindergarten Experiences in Early Childhood** **Isidora Castillo Rabanal**, United Kingdom		
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM		**Networking lunch and poster viewing (London)**		
2:00 PM - 2:30 PM		**The Regulated Educator: How Teacher Self-Care Dictates Classroom Co-Regulation** **Rashieta LaLand-Johnson**, United States	**One Question, Endless Learning: The Power of Child-Led Inquiry** **Shareen Ratnani**, Indonesia	
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM		**Beyond Compliance: Rethinking Quality in Early Childhood Care and Education** **Louise Pagden** ONLINE, **Angela Brown**, United Kingdom	**How intentionally designed 'attuned spaces' act as a pedagogical partner in young children's self-regulation, agency and participation** **Kyle Moore, Hazel Marian**, United Kingdom	
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM		**Building Strong Beginnings: Multidisciplinary Global Support for Autistic Children Entering School** **Helen Viana**, United Kingdom	**Listening to Children's Voices Through Drawings: Young Children's Experiences of School** **Josephine Deguara**, Malta	
3:30 PM - 4:00 PM	**From Laughter to Recognition: Letting Young Children's Voices Shape Socio-Emotional Storytelling,** **Christiane Hensel-Gatos, Brigitte Stangl**, United Kingdom	**Stories in Motion: Supporting Child-Led Play, Identity, and Agency Through Embodied Storytelling** **Kristen Magni**, United States	**When Parents Feel Attacked: Repair Scripts That Strengthen Home–School Trust** **Yao Tyus**, United States	**Language, Play, and Possibility: Honoring Children's Home Language as a Global Foundation for Early Literacy** **Lisa Wilson**, United States
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM	**Coffee, networking and poster viewing (London) · Close of conference**			

INTERACTIVE LEARNING ARENA · Open 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM London · runs alongside all sessions

Meet & Learn
Khalifa International Award for Early Learning 2027: Meet the Team

Discovery Station - Playoneering World
Where Children's Curiosity, Environments and Educators Grow Together
Jen Poulton, Hayley Peacock

Presenter Resource Hub
Resources from Our Presenters. Discover practical resources, tools, guides and materials shared directly by Bright Start 2026 presenters.

Global Poster Gallery · London (in person)

London (GMT+0)	Screen	Poster title & presenter(s)	London (GMT+0)	Screen	Poster title & presenter(s)
1:15 PM - 1:25 PM	L1	**Family Centres as "Natural Sources of Help": The Example of Mala Ulica Family Centre** **Eva Strmljan Kreslin**, Slovenia	1:45 PM - 1:55 PM	L2	**Responsive Caregiving Knowledge and Practices among Young Parents in Arusha, Tanzania** **Dr. Rita Mbeba**, Tanzania
1:15 PM - 1:25 PM	L2	**Forms of Challenging Behaviours in Preschool Children and Preschool Teachers' Support Strategies: Analysis of Assessment, Intensity and Frequency** **Jasna Kudek Mirošević, Edita Rogulj**, Croatia	1:45 PM - 1:55 PM	L3	**Is Our School Breathing? A Child-Led STEAM Inquiry into Air Quality and Environmental Awareness** **Esvet Özer Bilgin**, Türkiye
1:15 PM - 1:25 PM	L3	**Every Child Has a Story: Can Agency and Imagination Change the Early Literacy Journey?** **Kate Shelley**, United Kingdom	4:00 PM - 4:10 PM	L1	**Effectiveness of an Integrated Early Childhood Development Parenting Programme on Parenting Practices in Rural Bangladesh: A Cluster-Randomised Controlled Trial** **Syeda Fardina Mehrin**, Bangladesh
1:25 PM - 1:35 PM	L1	**Toward a New Human Rights Treaty on Early Childhood Education** **Bede Sheppard**, Spain	4:00 PM - 4:10 PM	L2	**"Reaching the unreached" during disaster: An illustration of providing early childhood education during pandemic in India** **Dr Monica Jairam**, India
1:25 PM - 1:35 PM	L2	**Inclusive Education Without Borders: A Digital Model for Safe, Qualified and Accessible Learning** **Laura Harrison**, United Kingdom	4:00 PM - 4:10 PM	L3	**Lost in translation?' The benefits and challenges of Participant Action Research for accessing the voices of young children; a relational conceptualisation** **Deirdre Forde, Leah O'Toole**, Ireland
1:25 PM - 1:35 PM	L3	**Making Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Part of Early Years Education** **Priyanka Devani, Katie Cohen**, United Kingdom	4:10 PM - 4:20 PM	L1	**Home Learning Environment and Early Academic Competencies in Rural Bangladesh: Follow-Up Findings from the EN-REACH (cRCT) Cohort** **Ismat Ara Mili**, Bangladesh
1:35 PM - 1:45 PM	L1	**Mothers, Communities and Anganwadis: Community-Centred Early Learning at Scale in India** **Shuchi Sharma**, India	4:10 PM - 4:20 PM	L2	**'Exploration of Children & Young People's Experiences of Autistic Burnout'** **Jodie Clarke**, United Kingdom
1:35 PM - 1:45 PM	L2	**You AIReady Are™: An Inside-Out Approach to Childhood Wellbeing** **Manal El-Ramly**, United States	4:10 PM - 4:20 PM	L3	**The 'Relational Nexus': Designing Inclusive Participatory Research to access the 'hundred languages' of Babies, Toddlers and Young Children with Disabilities** **Deirdre Forde, Leah O'Toole**, Ireland
1:35 PM - 1:45 PM	L3	**A LOVE of Learning in all schools** **Nikki Nightingale**, Cyprus	4:20 PM - 4:30 PM	L3	**Autistic Masking: The Child's Voice** **Jodie Clarke**, United Kingdom
1:45 PM - 1:55 PM	L1	**How Do Parents Matter Most?** **Eve Sullivan**, United Kingdom			

Programme correct as at 4 November 2026. Times may change; please check the Whova app for the latest version.