



## Early Childhood

### 2023-2024 Executive summary

#### Overview

After several years of exceptional leadership as chair of the Early Childhood SIG, Lynsey Briek has stepped down, passing the role to Beatrice Moccia. The team is currently in the process of appointing a new member to the SIG, and extends sincere thanks to Sofia Moros for her dedication and contributions during her time with us.

**Expand** - To focus on our LinkedIn site and expand the connections, using it as one channel communication with the community.

**Design** - To design a framework to follow when delivering online workshops.

**Organise** - Meetings with the broader community, including Early Childhood Leaders, to share and gather topics of interest in order to plan more intentional webinars and meet the needs of the educators.

#### for 2024-2025

- Research the community needs and plan Webinars according to those.
- Organise Webinars at different time zones to enable pedagogues from all over the world to join
- Create guidelines for presenters to follow when setting up a Webinar
- Keep promoting high-quality and developmentally appropriate early childhood education within our community.

#### Social Media



Over the summer the SIG has decided to focus and use LinkedIn as the only social media channel to share content and connect with the community. The goal with this shift is to reach out to a broader number of people, enabling our SIG to foster the interactions with the community.

### The website:

Our website has also been undergoing some small changes recently. As we are looking forward to including a broader number of community members, we are no longer using the word “teachers” but pedagogues. Some of our values have also been updated, focusing even more on the learner as the core of the learning and teaching process.

### Online events:

The EC SIG worked together to plan regular online sessions with the community.

The name - Connect & Converse was decided upon, and to ensure longevity, these sessions are planned around prominent umbrella themes. The SIGs research conducted via Padlets found that the EC community were primarily interested in creating learning environments that enable to build positive relationships. Some of the topics covered have focused on:

- The learning environment
- Approaches to well-being in Early Years
- Creating cultures within an EC setting

The SIG decided to begin with a series of sessions to spotlight specific areas of well-being. The following sessions were planned, each containing introduction to the topic and content sharing, followed by breakout rooms supported by guiding questions.

### 2023/2024 Webinars:

[Little learners big feelings](#)

[Wellbeing and involvement](#)

[Defining rational pedagogy](#)

[Are you ready to play?](#)

## Conference-



The SIG also collaborated to create a conference last November 2023 in Doha. The concept was inspired by the reformation of the SIG and the need for EY educators to embrace the joy of teaching again after the challenging last few years. The title, *Rise up: Elevating and Empowering the Joy of early childhood learning*, was chosen to highlight the concept and the following themes were presented in the call for proposals.

- The joy of wonder
- Connecting to learning
- Powerful places
- Wellbeing and belonging

The 2023 Early Childhood Conference Theme invited educators to reconnect and relight the early year's fire. The aim was to encourage educators to bring their stories, experiences and good practice; together, so we can learn to empower and enrich the lives of our youngest learners. The conference allowed us to reflect, rethink and explore how our programs, environments and relationships can be more responsive, joyful and impactful.