

International Association for Children's Spirituality
2025 Virtual International Conference
Children's Spirituality in an Uncertain World
Online via Zoom 24-25 & 28-29 July 2025



The 2025 virtual conference will focus on new and continuing challenges in children's spirituality in an uncertain world and how the research and practices of participants are responding to these challenges. We particularly invite papers and online presentations that address children's spirituality in an uncertain world in light of 1) school-based policies and practices, 2) faith community-based practices, 3) public/policy-oriented issues, 4) children's health and wellbeing. We also welcome proposals addressing other topics and practical pre-recorded workshops that can be offered online. We encourage all projects to highlight children's voices when possible, and graduate student proposals will be gladly received.

The conference will consist of a series of scholarly and supportive conversations. Paper presenters will share their research through one of two categories – (1) a short (1200-1500 word) paper, or (2) a full paper (5000-6000 words) including an abstract of up to 500 words highlighting key points. Alternatively, presenters may pre-record (15-20 minute maximum) presentations that will be posted ahead of time and then discussed in live Zoom panel conversations. During the online conference, papers and pre-recorded presentations will be grouped together, with presenters given 10 minutes each to present, followed by 30 minutes for discussion and conversation. Papers will be posted ahead of time so that participants can read them and engage in conversation during the Zoom sessions.

Workshops (20-25 minutes maximum) will also be posted online so that participants can access them in advance and then talk about their experiences in a live Zoom session. Live sessions will be scheduled at various times across four days to maximize opportunities for participation from wherever participants are located. Most sessions will be in English; Proposals for sessions in other languages will be considered.

Proposals due 1 April 2025

Submit (via upload to [IACS July 2025 Symposium - Google Drive](#)) a proposal that includes your name and affiliation(s), geographic location, email, paper/presentation or workshop title, 3-4 key words, and a 250-word abstract that summarizes your argument/findings/focus and identifies methodologies and theoretical frameworks. (For workshops, also explain how you will invite interaction from participants using online tools.) Indicate whether your topic falls within one of the four focus areas, and whether you intend to submit a paper, online presentation, or online workshop. (For a proposal template, see next page.)

We will notify those submitting proposals via email re: acceptance of proposals by **1 May 2025**. Full versions of papers, presentations, and workshops will be due by **30 June 2025**.

General Registration

There is no charge for attending the conference. You need not provide a paper, presentation, or workshop to participate. If you prefer to read/listen/watch the submitted work and then join in the live Zoom discussions, send your name and affiliation(s), geographic location, and email to brendan.hyde@deakin.edu.au by 1 July 2025. (Put 'IACS Conference Registration' in the subject line.) We will send you a schedule of events and a Zoom link prior to the first day of the conference.

*The **International Association for Children's Spirituality** seeks to promote and support research and practice in relation to children's spirituality within education and wider contexts of children's care and wellbeing. We understand spiritually broadly and inclusively as having relation to the religious and beyond the religious. We encourage holistic approaches to children's spirituality and personal development across a variety of disciplines, professions, organizations and communities. To learn more about the IACS, please visit www.children-spirituality.org.*

Proposal Template

Name:

Institutional/Organizational affiliation:

Geographic location (city, state, country)

Paper/presentation/workshop title:

Indicate type: FULL PAPER SHORT PAPER PRESENTATION WORKSHOP

Indicate topic category:

1. School-based policies and practices
2. Faith Community-based practices
3. Public/Policy-oriented issues
4. Children's health and wellbeing
5. Other (provide topic here):

Self-Designation (e.g., graduate student, researcher, reflective practitioner, professor, teacher, etc):

Key words (3-4):

Abstract (250 words summarizing argument/findings/focus and identifying methodologies and theoretical frameworks; for workshops, also indicate how session will invite interaction using online tools):