



## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

**Monday 4 May 2020**

**8–17 Registration at Messukeskus Expo and Convention Centre**

**Optional excursions** (separate payment)

guided transportation from Messukeskus, departure about 45 minutes before scheduled time

- **Kindergarten (ECEC centres) visits with different themes. 28 different kindergartens to visit in Metropolitan area (Espoo, Helsinki, Vantaa)**
  - 9.00 – 10.30 and 13.00 – 14.30
- **Play parks with different themes. 9 different play parks to visit in Helsinki area.**
  - 9.30 – 11.30 and 13.00 – 14.00
- **Keeping up quality – get to know Finnish ECEC administration**
  - 12.30 – 14.00 and 14.30 – 16.00
- **Kindergarten Museum in Helsinki**
  - 13.00 – 14.30
- **Finnish Teacher Education & Playful Learning Center, University of Helsinki**
  - 13.00 – 14.30
- **Innokas-network, MOI multiliteracy network / University of Helsinki**
  - 13.00 – 14.30
- **Annantalo Arts Centre**
  - 13.00 – 14.30
- **Espoo City Library Sello**
  - 13.00 – 14.30
- **Helsinki Metropolitan Area Reuse Centre Ltd, Helsinki**
  - 9.30 – 12.00 and 13.00 – 15.30

**Optional programme** (free of charge)

- **The Trade Union of Education in Finland**
  - 13.00 – 14.30 and 17.00 – 18.30
  - Rautatieläisenkatu 6 (next to Messukeskus)

- **University of Helsinki, Rector's reception** (*for researchers and scientists*)
  - 17.00 – 19.00
  - **Messukeskus Expo and Convention Centre**
  - The University of Helsinki has the pleasure to invite the **researchers** and **scientists** to participate in the reception on the occasion of the Children First Conference. In the reception the participants have the opportunity to meet and network with other scholars from early childhood education around the world and discuss about the latest research based development of early education policies and practices.

## Tuesday 5 May 2020

**8–12 Registration at Messukeskus Expo and Convention Centre**

**9.00 Opening of the conference**

Li Andersson, Minister of Education, Ministry of Education and Culture

**9.30 Plenary session 1**

**Curriculum and Pedagogy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: beyond school readiness**

Kathy Sylva, Professor, University of Oxford, Great Britain

**Creating Ecologies of Learning Early Childhood Education in the Anthropocene**

Arjen E. J. Wals, Professor, Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands

**10.30 Coach discussion with the keynote speakers – time for further questions**

**11.00 Lunch with table discussion themes and poster session 1**

**Exhibition at Valo**

**12.15 Optional thematic sessions 1**

- great setting of best practices and latest research findings on five conference themes: ecologically, pedagogically, culturally, socially and economically strong early childhood education and care
- **for further information coming soon**

**13.45 Optional thematic sessions 2**

- great setting of best practices and latest research findings on five conference themes: ecologically, pedagogically, culturally, socially and economically strong early childhood education and care
- **for further information coming soon**

**15.15 Coffee break and street art**

**15.45 Plenary session 2**

**Linguistically Strong ECEC in the Nordic Countries - Challenges and Possibilities for the Future**

Heidi Harju-Luukkainen, Professor, Nord University, Norway

**16.15–16.30 Wrapping it up**

**19.00–20.30 Optional social event (free of charge)**

**Helsinki City Welcome Reception at Helsinki Town Hall**

(Street address Pohjoisesplanadi 11-13, Helsinki)

**Wednesday 6 May 2020**

**9.00 Opening words**

**9.10 Plenary session 3**

**Early childhood education – a fundamental part of learning systems**

Olli-Pekka Heinonen, Director General, Finnish National Agency for Education

**Changing childhood in a changing world**

Tracey Burns, Senior Analyst, OECD's Centre for Educational Research and Innovation

**A moment for questions from the audience**

*Plenary session will continue after the coffee break*

**10.15 Coffee break and street art**

**Poster session 2 and Exhibition at Valo**

**11.15 European sights for developing early childhood education and care**

Géraldine Libreau, Policy Officer, Early Childhood Education and Care, European Commission

Marja-Kristiina Lerkkanen, Professor, Vice head (research), University of Jyväskylä

**11.15 Optional thematic session 3**

- great setting of best practices and latest research findings on five conference themes: ecologically, pedagogically, culturally, socially and economically strong early childhood education and care
- **for further information coming soon**

**12.45 Lunch**

**13.45 Optional thematic session 4**

- great setting of best practices and latest research findings on five conference themes: ecologically, pedagogically, culturally, socially and economically strong early childhood education and care
- **for further information coming soon**

**15.15 Plenary session 4**

**Pedagogically strong early childhood education**

Kristiina Kumpulainen, professor, Helsinki University, Finland

**16.00 Thoughts for the Future**

**18.00 Optional social program (separate payment)**

**Vantaa city Reception and conference dinner at The Finnish Science Centre**

**Heureka, Tiedepuisto 1, Tikkurila, Vantaa**

Read more about [The Finnish Science Centre Heureka](#)

**Thursday 7 May 2020**

**9–12**

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  - 9.00 – 10.30
- **Innokas-network, MOI multiliteracy network, University of Helsinki**
  - 9.00 – 10.30
- **Annantalo Arts Centre**
  - 9.30 – 11.00
- **Espoo City Library Sello**
  - 9.30 – 11.00
- **Helsinki Metropolitan Area Reuse Centre Ltd, Espoo**
  - 9.30 – 12.00

**Optional programme (free of charge)**

- **The Trade Union of Education in Finland**
  - 11.00 – 12.30

*Changes to the program may occur.*