



**National Education Conference
Scottish Teachers for Enhancing Practice
Annual Conference**

Saturday 2nd March 2024

Stirling Court Hotel

Workshops

Below you will find full details of all workshops to be delivered. There are three sessions: two in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Please study this information carefully and indicate on the booking form your first and reserve choice for each session. For example, in the first session if you would like to attend session A1, please indicate this on your booking form and so on for the other two sessions. We will do our very best to meet your requests.

Your completed form should be returned no later than **21st February 2024** to:
conference@steachersep.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you on 2nd March!

Caroline Maloney
STEP Conference Organiser

At a Glance

Session A (Morning) 10.25 - 11.15	Session B (Morning) 11.20 -12.10	Session C (Afternoon) 2.05 – 2.55
A1 – Nuzhat Uthmani Education, Decoloniality & Social Justice	B1 –Colin McGill Improving learning & teaching using findings from the science of learning	C1 – Sinead Rhodes Supporting neurodivergent children and young people using EPIC
A2 – Craig Lowther The Benefits of a Maths Mastery Approach to Numeracy	B2 – Leanne McGuire Glasgow City Parents Group Parental Partnerships: Bridging Gaps through Clear Communication	C2 – Livvi Brooks The importance of menstrual cycle awareness in school
A3 – Pauline Bird and Signe Rudoviča Expanding Reading Repertoires through Book Tasting	B3 – Alison Murray Social Justice through Physical Literacy	C3 – Karen Watson Let's Talk About Inclusive Communication
A4 – Donna Stewart & Liz McGrath SQA – Educator Charter	B4 – Ollie Bray Education in the era of AI: Opportunities, Challenges and Puzzles	
A5 – Catherine Thomas and Anne Doyle Facilitating Emotional Competence in Preschool Children	B5 – Claire Murray, Sarah Riach & Laura Rennie The Emotion Works Primary School Award: Working in Partnership Towards Shared Goals in Learning & Wellbeing	C5 – Gemma Clark Ways to Reduce Workload Using AI

Descriptors for all workshops are on the following pages

Keynote Information:

Conference chair – David Cameron

David Cameron has established himself as a leading voice in education. He has led reviews and presented at conferences in Scotland, across the UK and internationally, working with teachers, parents and governors. David has extensive experience as a teacher, a senior manager in schools and in local authorities, most recently as Director of Children's Services for Stirling Council. David has supported STEP for many years and his passion for education combined with his extensive knowledge and sense of humour have provided STEP with a hugely popular conference chair. He can be contacted at therealdavidcameron@gmail.com.

Jenny Gilruth, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills of Scotland: opening address

Morning keynote: Walter Humes

Walter Humes taught English in secondary schools before working in a college of education and several Scottish Universities. He has been a Professor of Education at the Universities of Aberdeen, Strathclyde and West of Scotland. He is now an Honorary Professor in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Stirling. His publications include work on educational policy, curriculum studies, history of education, teacher education, and educational leadership and management. He is co-editor of *Scottish Education* published by Edinburgh University Press (5th edition, 2018).

In 2019 he received a John Nisbet Fellowship from the British Educational Research Association for his lifetime contribution to educational research, the first Scottish recipient of the award. He was a member of the Expert Panel advising Professor Ken Muir as he prepared his report *Putting Learners at the Centre: Towards a Future Vision for Scottish Education* (Scottish Government, 2022). In November 2023, Professor Humes gave evidence to the Education, Children and Young People Committee of the Scottish Parliament on the progress of educational reform.

Keynote title: Winning the Hearts and Minds of Teachers

In this keynote Walter will argue that policy makers need to do more to restore confidence and trust in the educational system, and that valuing the work of classroom teachers must be central to this aspiration.

Afternoon keynote: Khadija Mohammed

Khadija is Associate Dean for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion at the University of the West of Scotland. She is a multi-award winning sector leader on racial equity and anti-racism education. Her research centres on the lived experiences of Black and Minority Ethnic Teachers in Scotland with a focus on acknowledging, nurturing and celebrating their diverse identities. Khadija is the co-founder and Chair of SAMEE. She received the Scottish Trade Union Congress Equality Award in 2019 and is the first BME educator to be elected as the Convenor of the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS). Khadija was Chair of the Advance HE/Scottish Funding Council project 'Tackling Racial Harassment in Universities and Colleges'. She is currently the chair of the Scottish Government Anti-Racism in Education Programme Board (AREP). Khadija also received the Times Higher Education Outstanding Staff Contribution Award in 2022.

Keynote title: Becoming, Being and Growing as Teacher in Scotland: Identity and Positionality

STEP 2024 Workshop details

	Presenter	Sessions
1	<p>Livvi Brookes Bamazingeducation@gmail.com</p> <p>Workshop Title: The importance of menstrual cycle awareness in school</p>	<p>Biography: Bloody Amazing are a Scottish teacher-led social enterprise who design and deliver workshops on all things menstrual health and menopause in schools, community venues and corporate settings, with a focus on connection, inclusivity and sustainability. We are passionate about connecting with every Scottish teacher around these issues.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: 82% of UK teachers surveyed feel that menstrual health impacts participation in schools. We want to raise the issues of menstrual cycle education in school and the impact periods can have on attainment, attendance, body image and emotional presentation. We seek to promote the importance of "period aware schools" and adopting a proactive attitude to period problems and managing symptoms and choosing products that meet their needs.</p>
2	<p>Craig Lowther Craig.Lowther.ic@uhi.ac.uk</p> <p>Workshop Title: The Benefits of a Maths Mastery Approach to Numeracy</p>	<p>Biography: Craig is Curriculum Leader of Science, Computing and Education at University of the Highlands and Islands, and Series Editor for Mathematics at Leckie.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: The National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics defined the five big ideas in Teaching for Mastery as Coherence, Representation and Structure, Mathematical Thinking, Fluency and Variation (NCETM 2017). This workshop will explore how these ideas can be put into practice in the classroom and how resources have been created to support this pedagogical approach.</p>
3	<p>Pauline Bird and Signe Rudoviča Scottish Book Trust pauline.bird@scottishbooktrust.com</p> <p>Workshop Title: Expanding Reading Repertoires through Book Tasting</p>	<p>Biography: Pauline Bird Pauline Bird is a School Communities Manager at Scottish Book Trust - a national charity that has been bringing the benefits of reading and writing to people in Scotland since 1998. A qualified primary teacher, she leads on Scottish Book Trust's national training and development programmes for learning professionals. Having graduated with an MEd in Children's Literature and Literacies from the University of Glasgow in</p>

		<p>2020, she is delighted to work with a wide audience of educators interested in using children's literature in their practice.</p> <p>Signe Rudoviča Signe Rudoviča is the project manager for Sharing Sensory Stories at Scottish Book Trust. With degrees in both English and Education, her current focus lies in project management, specifically geared towards supporting children and young people with additional support needs. She is invested in early literacy, exploring how stories can be enjoyed by diverse audiences, particularly those with disabilities. Signe is committed to enhancing disability representation in children's literature, ensuring that every child can see themselves reflected in the stories they read and enjoy.</p> <p>Workshop Descriptor: Research indicates that teacher knowledge of children's literature and other texts is the cornerstone on which interactive communities of readers are built. However, with so many demands on their time, teachers may not always have time to stay abreast of new releases for young people. Book Tasting is a fun and engaging way to explore new texts, genres and authors. Our workshop will give you the opportunity to try Book Tasting yourself; discover the research supporting it; and introduce some of Scottish Book Trust's resources that can be used to run a Book Tasting session in your own setting.</p>
4	<p>Sinead Rhodes Sinead.Rhodes@ed.ac.uk</p> <p>Workshop Title: Supporting neurodivergent children and young people using EPIC</p>	<p>Biography: Sinead Rhodes has 25 years experience of conducting research to better understand and support undiagnosed and diagnosed neurodivergent children and undertaking public engagement work to ensure this research reaches those who would most benefit. She has recently launched a social enterprise company 'EPIC Think Learn' to scale up the services and resources she provides supporting parents, teachers and those who work in clinical and practitioner roles with neurodivergent young people.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: In this workshop an overview of the EPIC (Edinburgh Psychoeducation Intervention for Children) approach will be provided. The workshop will highlight how recent neurodiversity</p>

		<p>research and a co-production approach with parents, teachers and clinicians has shaped the development of the EPIC approach and activities. Activities will be described that teachers can use to help understand and support neurodivergent children and young people. The EPIC approach and activities are suitable for use with children on waiting lists as well as diagnosed children.</p> <p>Delegates would benefit from downloading the free 'Understanding' and 'Supporting' Neurodivergent children booklets (teacher versions) in advance that can be found here: www.epic-information.com</p>
5	<p>Nuzhat Uthmani gceducationscot@gmail.com</p> <p>Workshop title: Education, Decoloniality & Social Justice</p>	<p>Biography: A former principal teacher from Glasgow, Nuzhat is currently a Lecturer in Primary Education at the University of Stirling. A board member of the Scottish Government's Antiracism in Education Programme she is also Co-Chair of the Diversity in the Teaching Profession and Education Workforce sub group. Also as founder of her own global citizenship platform, she specialises in promoting Antiracist and global citizenship education.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: This workshop will explore how our history of colonising around the globe has shaped our education systems and evidence how this ideology is still upheld today. The workshop will include practical tips of how we can move to decolonise our approaches and dismantle this ideology to move towards understanding what social justice should look like in a school context.</p>
6	<p>Alison Murray alison.murray1@stir.ac.uk</p> <p>Workshop title: Social Justice through Physical Literacy</p>	<p>Biography: Alison Murray is a Lecturer at the University of Stirling.</p> <p>Beyond teacher education, Alison's work focuses on empowering children's agency for a meaningful transition to active and empowered adulthood. Having coached at levels ranging from club to collegiate in disciplines such as Gymnastics, Swimming, and Track & Field, she brings a wealth of practical experience to the table.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: This workshop will provide a means to implement social justice pedagogy in order to</p>

		<p>build physical literacy. Colleagues will explore and practice ways to situate the languages, values and cultures of all students in their classroom through the progression of fundamental movement skill themes practised through a variety of movement concepts.</p> <p>Collegial Notes: Comfy shoes and attire for light movement are welcome. Any and everything is accessible to all. Folks can watch and contribute, and or watch and try - this is not a PE session, it is a learning opportunity situated through physically active learning.</p>
7	<p>Colin McGill c.mcgill3@napier.ac.uk</p> <p>Workshop title: Improving learning & teaching using findings from the science of learning</p>	<p>Biography: Colin is a Lecturer in Teacher Education and the programme leader of the PGDE programmes at Edinburgh Napier University. Prior to this, he was a chemistry teacher and principal teacher of science. He has interests in improving learning & teaching of teachers at all stages of their career.</p> <p>Workshop Descriptor: This workshop will focus on how we can use findings from the science of learning to reflect on how learning happens in the classroom. We will explore how learning takes place, how we can improve retention of new information, the importance of prior knowledge, and how we can use cognitive psychology research to support ALL learners in our classroom. We will then reflect on various learning activities using this new knowledge which can then be applied in future teaching.</p>
8	<p>Donna Stewart and Liz McGrath, SQA donna.stewart@sqa.org.uk</p> <p>Workshop Title: SQA – Educator Charter</p>	<p>Biography: Donna Stewart – Head of Policy (NQ) Donna has spent most of her career in Secondary schools, originally as a physics teacher and most latterly as a Depute Head Teacher. During her time in schools, she was a Chartered Teacher and was awarded the Standard for Headship. Donna then went on to take up post with GTCS supporting teacher professionalism before joining SQA as Head of Policy (National Qualifications) in March 2023.</p> <p>Liz McGrath – Programme Director Education Reform Liz has been with SQA since 2004 and has been focused on improvement, governance and compliance through roles in Corporate Planning and Qualifications Portfolio Management. In her current role as Programme Director for Reform</p>

		<p>she leads the small team that liaises with the Scottish Government led Education Reform Programme focused on structural reform and replacement of SQA. This work should soon incorporate activity arising from the Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment, the National Discussion, Independent Review of Skills Delivery Landscape and the Post School Education Purpose and Principles plans. Before SQA Liz worked in brewing and logistics for multinational companies primarily in financial roles but also managing large teams and projects.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: The journey towards a new qualifications body for Scotland is under way. As part of that work, SQA wants to give every educator the opportunity to shape how we work with and support the teaching profession. Your views are imperative in informing the culture and ways of working of the new body. This session will focus on the co-creation of a charter for educators, and we invite you to be part of its development and engage with us on how the new qualification body can best support the teaching profession.</p>
9	<p>Catherine Thomas and Anne Doyle catherine.thomas@westlothian.org.uk annedoyle@virginmedia.com</p> <p>Workshop Title: Facilitating Emotional Competence in Preschool Children</p>	<p>Biography: Ann Doyle Ann's career in education began as a primary teacher and very quickly developed into an interest for early years education. She has undertaken many roles in early-years, at a local and national level. Currently she tutors at Strathclyde University on the BACP and PGCE (early level) courses.</p> <p>Catherine Thomas Catherine has always recognised the critical importance of early years education. She has spent the vast majority of her 32 years in Education in the early years sector including 17 years as a Nursery Teacher and 7 years in a Local Authority Early Years Team. She is a Chartered Teacher (2007). Currently, she is a member of her Local Authority Equity Team.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: <i>Larkin (2010) claimed that by enabling practitioners to effectively support preschool children's self-regulation, this will assist in the prevention of developmental delay in self-regulatory skills, which can lead to difficulties in making transition to school and increase the risk</i></p>

		<p><i>of academic failure in later life.</i></p> <p>The workshop will focus on a definition of emotional competence from a motivation and cognitive perspective. We will consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What is emotional competence? -What does emotional competence look like in preschool children? -How can preschool practitioners facilitate emotional competence?
10	<p>Ollie Bray Ollie.Bray@educationscotland.gov.scot</p> <p>Workshop Title: Education in the era of AI: Opportunities, Challenges and Puzzles</p>	<p>Biography: Ollie currently works for Education Scotland as one of their Strategic Directors. He was previously (amongst other things) Headteacher of Kingussie High School in Highland and Global Director of Connecting Play and Education at the LEGO Foundation in Denmark. He has a long standing interest in technology to support learning teaching and assessment as well as a love of cycling!</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: Everyone is talking about artificial Intelligence (AI), but what actually is it and how will it impact on learners, teachers and learning? In this (non-technical) workshop we will explore what is AI? How to get the best use out of generative AI tools like Chat GPT and Goggle Baird? Some simple AI tools that can be used to develop learning experiences and resources for classrooms; and resources that can be used to teach young people about AI, including the ethics of AI. There will be lots of time for questions and the workshop will be suitable to both those completely new to AI and technology in education and those with lots of practical experience.</p>
11	<p>Leanne McGuire (Glasgow City Parents Group) gcparentsgroup@gmail.com</p> <p>Workshop Title: Parental Partnerships: Bridging Gaps through Clear Communication</p>	<p>Biography: With over 13 years of experience as a Parent Council member and six years as chairperson of the Glasgow City Parents Group (GCPG), Leanne has emerged as a prominent spokesperson for parents and carers across Scotland.</p> <p>As the Glasgow rep for the National Parent Forum of Scotland (NPFS), she actively participates in Scottish Government working groups and provides input on key issues, such as LGBT Inclusive Education Implementation, School Uniform Guidance, and RSHP. Her balanced views and expertise have made her a</p>

		<p>sought-after spokesperson.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: Explore the transformative potential of 'Parental Partnerships: Bridging Gaps through Clear Communication,' as we delve into the pivotal role of transparent dialogue in fostering stronger connections between parents/carers, educators, and pupils for a more unified and supportive learning environment.</p>
12	<p>Karen Watson scottishasnteacher@gmail.com</p> <p>Workshop Title: Let's Talk About Inclusive Communication</p>	<p>Biography: Karen Watson is an Additional Support Needs (ASN) educator, inclusion champion and teacher. She has worked in the sector for over ten years and is passionate about all things ASN / SEND, especially helping other professionals increase their confidence, knowledge and opportunities for inclusion. She works in Ayrshire, has written for the TES and reaches out to other professionals via her podcast - Scottish ASN Teacher - and as a presenter on Teacher Hug Radio.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: How can we make our classrooms inclusive of all communication needs? Let's take a closer look at how we can adapt our communication and teaching to suit learners with Additional Support Needs, including looking at our targets, displays and general classroom labelling. We will also discuss how to ensure our communication is accessible, and how to support all levels of communication needs. Let's work together to find strategies that will work for your classrooms and learners, and make your space truly inclusive and accessible to all!</p>
13	<p>Claire Murray claire.murray@emotionworks.org.uk</p> <p>Workshop title: The Emotion Works Primary School Award: Working in Partnership Towards Shared Goals in Learning & Wellbeing</p>	<p>Biography: Claire Murray is the creator of the Emotion Works programme and founder of the Emotion Works organisation, which she runs as a Social Enterprise and Community Interest Company. Claire will also be joined by staff from an Emotion Works flagship school who have recently achieved their Gold Award.</p> <p>Workshop Descriptor: In this workshop you'll find out why the Emotion Works Programme is so well implemented in hundreds of Scottish Primary Schools and hear about many of the positive impacts it's having on the learning and emotional wellbeing of staff and</p>

		<p>pupils alike.</p> <p>The Emotion Works Primary School Award takes a partnership approach to each school's accreditation and includes a step-by-step process of staff training, lesson delivery, curriculum planning, whole school capacity building and pupil involvement.</p> <p>An inspiring example of one school's journey towards their Gold School Award will be provided throughout the workshop.</p>
14	<p>Gemma Clark gemmaclark14@outlook.com</p> <p>Workshop title: Ways to Reduce Workload Using AI</p>	<p>Biography: Gemma is a primary teacher and writer with a keen interest in both pupil and teacher wellbeing. She is a yoga instructor and Massage in Schools Program facilitator and also an advocate of inclusive practice in education. Gemma has researched and written articles and a book about the potential benefits of AI for teachers when it comes to tackling workload.</p> <p>Workshop descriptor: This workshop will govern you lots of practical advice and uses for AI particularly when it comes to decreasing your workload. The creative potential of AI and its potential to remove barriers for children will also be explored.</p>