

# Play and Creativity

## Play is the work of the child

Consultative Conference on Education 2023

# Spraoi agus Cruthaitheacht

## 'Sé spraoi obair an pháiste

Comhdháil Chomhairleach ar Oideachas 2023

### Fáilte

Dear delegate,

We are delighted to welcome you to Tullamore for the INTO Education Conference. The theme of the conference this year is *Play and Creativity*.

The use of playful and creative teaching methods in our classrooms provides opportunities for innovative, engaging teaching and learning. These methods involve children in activities that hold personal significance, fostering self-awareness and interpersonal understanding, while also cultivating autonomy and motivation for learning. Children learn best when they are actively involved in the learning process, therefore playful teaching that incorporates games, hands-on activities and exploration within the curriculum impacts positively on children's outcomes. The adoption of playful and creative classroom practices will be appreciated by our pupils and help them to succeed in a meaningful and fun environment.

We look forward to your participation and engagement with our speakers, discussion groups and workshops.

Yours sincerely,



*Dorothy McGinley*

**Dorothy McGinley**  
INTO President



*John Boyle*

**John Boyle**  
INTO General Secretary

### Clár

#### Friday, 17 November

- 2:30pm **Registration and workshop selection**
- 3:00pm **Conference opening**  
Dorothy McGinley, INTO President  
Aidan Gaughran, Cathaoirleach,  
INTO Education Committee
- Presentation by  
INTO Education Committee**  
Alice O'Donnell, District 8  
Lisa Magennis, District 1
- Máirín Ní Chéileachair, INTO Director of  
Education, Research and Learning
- 3:45pm **Coffee break**
- 4:15pm **Discussion groups**
- 5:30pm **Keynote address:  
*The Art of Growing Up***  
Aideen Howard, The Ark
- 6:15pm **Launch of *Irish Teachers' Journal***  
**Wine reception**  
kindly sponsored by  
Comhar Linn INTO Credit Union

#### Saturday, 18 November

- 9:30am **Workshop A**
- 10:45am **Coffee break**  
Kindly sponsored by  
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- 11:15am **Workshop B**
- 12:30pm **Presentation to the  
INTO bursary winners**
- 12:45pm **Keynote address:  
*A Pedagogy of Play: Exploring  
the Power of Playful Teaching  
and Learning in Practice***  
Dr Glenda Walsh, Stranmillis University
- 1:30pm **Críoch**

Kindly sponsored by



## General Information

### Registration

Registration opens at 2.30pm on Friday, 17 November. We ask you to assist INTO staff by completing your delegate card, which is in your pack, prior to your arrival at the registration desk.

### Car park

There are 500 complimentary car parking spaces available on site.

### Conference evaluation

Delegates will be contacted after the conference with a link to a short online questionnaire for the purposes of evaluating the conference.

### Trade stands and exhibitors

A number of exhibitors will be in attendance. We encourage you to visit these during your breaks.

### Wine reception

The wine reception has been kindly sponsored by Comhar Linn INTO Credit Union.

### Absence from school

The Department of Education has given approval for leave of absence for delegates to attend the conference.

A copy of the letter is available on the Education Conference page on the INTO website. However, substitute cover is **not** available.

### INTO communication policy

Please be advised that photography and videography will be taking place at this event.

These materials may be used by the INTO and included in publications, media materials, promotional materials, digital platforms and social platforms. If you do not wish the INTO to use your image, please go to the registration desk and inform staff.

The INTO can then take reasonable steps to comply with your wishes.

### Discussion groups: Friday, 4.15pm

The discussion groups will give delegates an opportunity to give their views and opinions on the important theme of *Play and Creativity*. A discussion paper on the theme is available on the Conference web page at [www.into.ie](http://www.into.ie). Please refer to your name badge (A-E) to find your assigned discussion group.

### Workshops: Saturday, 9.30am and 11.15am

Delegates are asked to choose two workshops from the list below at registration.

Due to space limitations in the venue, each workshop will have a maximum number of delegates and will operate on a first come first served basis at registration.

For full details and a description of the workshops visit our dedicated conference web page at [www.into.ie](http://www.into.ie).

## Discussion Groups and Workshop Venues

Room	Discussion Group Friday 4.15pm	Workshop A Saturday 9.30am	Workshop B Saturday 11.15am
DE Williams I	A	<i>Storytelling and Language Enrichment</i> Liz Weir	<i>Storytelling and Language Enrichment</i> Liz Weir
Manly Suite	B	<i>Samba Drumming</i> The Ark	<i>Samba Drumming</i> The Ark
Goodbody Suite I-II	C	<i>Play and Playful Pedagogies in the Primary Curriculum</i> NCCA	<i>Play and Playful Pedagogies in the Primary Curriculum</i> NCCA
Goodbody Suite III-IV	D	<i>Maths Madness</i> Fighting Words	<i>Maths Madness</i> Fighting Words
B Daly Suite	E	<i>Visual Arts Workshop</i> The Ark	<i>Visual Arts Workshop</i> The Ark
Main Conference Hall		Researchmeet INTO Bursary Winners	<i>Play and Creativity in Education</i> Global Village