



Scottish Guidance Association Annual Conference & AGM

Saturday 21st September 2024

Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline

Programme:

09.30-10.00 **Coffee and registration**

10.00-10.10 **Welcome & opening remarks**

Lisa Finnie, President, Scottish Guidance Association

10.10- 10.35 **Education Scotland: Health and Wellbeing - a national update**

Tracy Johnston, Senior Education Officer for Health and Wellbeing Curriculum, Education Scotland

Biography: TJ joined Education Scotland in October 2021, after 20 years of teaching young people. She has held a range of different roles: Visiting Primary Physical Education Specialist; Teacher of Physical Education; Acting Principal Teacher of Pupil Care and Support and Principal Teacher of Health and Wellbeing. Latterly, she also worked as Deputy Principal Assessor for National 5 Physical Education at SQA.

10.35 - 11.05 **Thriving Survivors: Incel Subcultures**

David Russell, Development Lead and Service Manager

This input will cover current perceptions of masculinity and links to the Incel subculture in order to demystify misconceptions of Incel ideology and wider concepts on the messaging society gives young men and boys. With reference to research and practice in this field, it will be underpinned by the prevention of violence against women, children and the adverse impact of current culture on male mental health. By exploring methods of engagement and prevalent themes of vulnerability within masculinity, this input will outline what needs to be done to tackle widespread misogyny in current UK culture and the importance of reframing masculinity to create a vital culture shift that is pertinent for all genders to thrive.

Biography: David is the Development Lead & Service Manager at Thriving Survivors and previously held the position of Community Safety & Justice Manager at Midlothian Council. Prior to this he was a senior practitioner with Barnardo's specialising in work with children and young people with harmful sexual behaviour and / or who had experienced sexual abuse or exploitation. With extensive experience in providing assessments and interventions for vulnerable children, adolescents and adults within the field of sexual harm and violence, at times in custodial settings, David provides training on a range of themes on sexual violence & facilitates multi-disciplinary training internationally. A NOTA Scotland executive committee member supporting professionals responding to sexual harm, Lead author of 'Restorative Justice & Sexual Harm: The voices of those who have harmed'(Russell &

Cochrane, 2023), David is supporting an innovative research project with the University of Birmingham, exploring vulnerability within the Incel subculture. [@DavidRussellITS](#)

11.05 - 11.30

Really Real Resources: A unique approach to engage then educate through the use of documentary photography

Graham Miller, Founder & CEO, & Michelle Ferguson

Really Real Resources has recently partnered with Aberdeen Council Schools, Downs Syndrome Scotland and University of St Andrews to test, refine and measure the impact of its unique learning packs in a school setting. Here its founder and fellow trustee present the concept and outline of what they hope to achieve through the collaboration.

[@reallyrealresources](#)

Biography: Graham is an established documentary photographer who has worked with vulnerable groups for over ten years. He is known for creating powerful images and has worked on Autism, Downs Syndrome, mental health issues and rare disease. He is the founder for Really Real Resources, a unique charity committed to challenging thinking through supplying educational packs to schools.

11:30 - 11:50

Coffee and networking on the Ground Floor Gallery

11:50 - 12:15

Fast Forward - Young People and Risk-taking Behaviours

Allie Cherry-Byrnes, CEO

Allie will talk about the work of Fast Forward which uses the lens of risk-taking behaviours to support children and young people to better understand their decision-making processes, toward more informed choices, improved physical, mental and emotional health and positive destinations. [@fastforwardorg](#)

Biography: Allie started her career in community learning & development as a youth worker with Clackmannanshire Council.

Since then she has held senior and leadership roles in the voluntary and statutory sectors, including secondment to the Scottish Government.

In her personal life, she enjoys being in, on and near water.

12:15 - 12:40

Vale of Leven Academy - Attendance Action Research Project

Marie-Terese Wright, PT Support for Learning & PE Teacher

In September 2022, we began an action research project to examine the causes of pupil absence and to identify lasting solutions. Parents, pupils and staff contributed to our findings and helped us to inform school improvement planning in the past year.

Biography: Secondary school PE teacher with 15 years of experience. For 12 years, I have been a Pupil Support teacher and for the past 3 years I have been Principal Teacher of a Support for Learning service.

12:40 - 13:05

Gen+ on Meta-Skills: The key to success in a change-fuelled future

Becca Dobson & Victoria Vardy

Gen+ leads the charge in equipping young minds with the essential tools for navigating a dynamic world. Informed by the Scottish Government's commitment to holistic education, Gen+ is an evidence-based meta-skills program tailored to meet the diverse needs of learners. Gen+ embraces Professor Louise Hayward's call for prioritizing 'key skills,' which are deemed indispensable for success in both society and the workplace. Our innovative program, accessed through an engaging learning platform, aligns seamlessly with national frameworks and objectives, including the National Improvement Framework, Scottish Attainment Challenge, and Developing the Young Workforce initiative. By fostering critical thinking, creativity, effective communication, and resilience, Gen+ empowers learners to realise their full potential as confident individuals and responsible citizens.

LEARN. LEAD. THRIVE [@genplus_](#)

Biography: Becca Dobson is the Director of Education for Gen+, a registered charity devoted to enhancing the prospects of young people throughout Scotland. With a 15-year teaching career in Drama and as Principal Teacher of Wider Achievement and DYW, in Scottish secondary schools, Becca's journey has been marked by a commitment to education.

13:05 - 13:15

Lightning Session

Bloody Amazing: Menstrual Cycle Awareness / Menopause in the Workplace

Jen Nelson & Livvi Brooks

13:15 - 14:00

Lunch Break

14:00 - 14:15

AGM

14:15 - 14:50

Child Bereavement UK: Bereavement Support and Awareness

Sean Humphreys

Biography: Sean leads on project development for Child Bereavement UK in Scotland, including a support service, training and consultancy. He is an experienced counsellor, with extensive experience with young people and in schools. [@NowCounselling](#)

14:50 - 15:20

Place2Be: YOUR Wellbeing

Rosalind Hutchison

Rebecca Wilkinson-Quinn, Clinical Lead for Scotland, Place2Be

Roz and Becky will deliver a reflective and immersive session on looking after your wellbeing as a teacher. It will be a chance to stop and consider your own wellbeing which we know can

be challenging with the current pressures as a teacher today in Scotland. We hope to have a positive and supportive session, considering how to look after yourself and identify your own self care needs in order to maintain and improve wellbeing. [@Place2BeScot](#)

Biography: Roz has been a trainer with Place2Be for 4 years, delivering the Senior Mental Health Leads (SMHL) programme with schools across the UK and Place2Think sessions for teachers. Prior to this Roz worked in CAMHS for 24 years and is a BABCP accredited CBT therapist, working with children, young people and adults.

Becky joined Place2Be in 2007, and is responsible for our work in secondary schools across the UK. Rebecca is a HCPC registered Art Psychotherapist and clinical supervisor with over 20 years' experience working with children and young people in school settings.

15:20

Plenary and closing remarks

[Lisa Finnie, President, Scottish Guidance Association](#)

We hope that you enjoy the conference.

Don't forget to check us out on social media and our website: www.scottishguidance.org.uk



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