

The OSHC Conference 2026: Program at a glance



TOPICS

Behaviour guidance

Cultural insights

Diversity, play and rights

Leadership

Health and wellbeing

Program and practice

Complimentary pre-conference event: Monday 25 May | In-person (optional, registration required)

10.00am–12.00pm	Learning to embed Aboriginal perspectives through connections to Country	Hosted by Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation
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Day one: Tuesday 26 May

9.30am	Welcome to Country Wurundjeri Elder		Introduction and welcome Daniela Kavoukas, It Takes A Village	
9.50am	KEYNOTE	Risky, dodgy, dangerous play – how do we support the risky things children simply MUST be able to do?	Marc Armitage	Malarkey Playwork Australia
11.00am	KEYNOTE	Beyond behaviour management: A regulation-first approach to supporting children	Robyn Papworth	Play Move Improve
12.00pm	Breakout 1	From 'uh-oh' to 'a-ha!': Rethinking our behaviour playbook	Emily McKenna	Queensland Children's Activities Network
	Breakout 2	Strengthening your understanding of Assessment and Rating and unpacking Exceeding practice	Karen Morley	Victorian Early Childhood Regulatory Authority
	Breakout 3	Joining the generations with play and leisure – an introduction to intergenerational programs in OSHC	Professor Jennifer Cartmel	Griffith University
	Breakout 4	Online Yarning Circle	Wurundjeri Education Unit	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation
12.45pm	Lunch break			
1.30pm	PLENARY	A showcase of Australian OSHC research	Dr Bruce Hurst and Professor Jennifer Cartmel	University of Melbourne Griffith University
2.20pm–2.30pm	Wrap up and thank you			

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Day two: Wednesday 27 May

9.30am	Acknowledgement of Country and welcome back Daniela Kavoukas, It Takes A Village			
9.40am	KEYNOTE	9 is the magic number – relationship building with a twist!	Glenn Manton	Speaker-educator, youth advocate
10.45am	KEYNOTE	What is a child's rights approach to OSHC?	Professor John Tobin	Melbourne Law School
11.30am	PANEL	Children talk – OSHC listens!	Kathryn Marshall and Eaden Hardy-Munro	Merri Creek PS OSHC
12.00pm	Breakout 1	Keeping children safe in OSHC settings	Kate McGill	Bravehearts
	Breakout 2	Beyond self-care: Holistic approaches to strengthening educator wellbeing	Nicole Lees	Be You, Early Childhood Australia
	Breakout 3	Collaborative partnerships with families and communities in OSHC	Lucy Harberts and Sharon Goodwin	It Takes A Village
	Breakout 4	Empowering remote voices: How we can all support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander literacy	Indigenous Literacy Foundation	Indigenous Literacy Foundation
12.45pm	Lunch break			
1.15pm	PLENARY	Co-designing, collaborating and connecting: The art of nurturing relationships in OSHC programs that maximise participation and contribution	Catharine Hydon	Hydon Consulting
2.15pm–2.30pm	Wrap up and thank you			