



IMPROVING CHILDREN'S LIVES:  
TRANSLATING RESEARCH FOR PRACTICE,  
POLICY AND COMMUNITY.  
INAUGURAL EARLY START CONFERENCE 28-30 SEP 2015

## REGISTER NOW!

**Date:** 28-30 September  
**Location:** University of Wollongong  
**Fee:** \$450 full conference, \$80 per workshop

You are invited to attend an important first for child educators in Australia - the Inaugural Early Start Conference. The conference will bring together educators, practitioners, academics and policymakers from around Australia and the world for an open dialogue on key issues in childhood education and development. To register call Tamara Raso on 02-4221-5517 or visit: [earlystart.uow.edu.au/conference](http://earlystart.uow.edu.au/conference)

## About Early Start™

The conference is being held at Early Start, UOW's new \$44M state-of-the-art early childhood research, teaching and community engagement facility in Wollongong. The Early Start Discovery Space offers exciting learning experiences for young children and their families. Technological innovations allow collaboration with a network of early childhood education and care centres across regional, rural and remote areas of Australia, connecting communities with researchers and specialist practitioners.



## Conference Theme: 'Improving Children's Lives'

At the core of the Early Start mission is the goal of improving children's lives. This conference will address the challenges that exist in policy and practice for children, families and educators by exploring current research on the early years of life (0-6yrs) and proposing strategies for the future that will both inform and improve childhood education and development outcomes

## Invited Speakers:

### *Global thought-leaders in childhood education, health & psychology*

Renowned thinkers on childhood education, health and psychology issues from around the world have been confirmed, including Professor Catherine Snow from Harvard, Professor Michael Wald from Stanford University, Professor Dianne Ward from North Carolina, Professor Ted Melhuish from Oxford, Professor Iram Siraj from University College London and Professor Fred Paas from Erasmus University.

## Pre-Conference Workshops:

### **WORKSHOP 1: "Creating a Stronger Social-Emotional Climate in the Classroom"**

Facilitated by Professor Iram Siraj, this workshop will introduce the Sustained Shared Thinking and Emotional Wellbeing (SSTEW) scale and how it can be used by teachers and practitioners to improve high quality interactions, children's behaviour and create a strong social emotional climate.

### **WORKSHOP 2: "How to Self-Assess the nutrition and physical activity environments in Early Stage 1 and make changes based on the results"**

Facilitated by Professor Dianne Ward, this workshop will show educators and practitioners how to conduct a self-assessment of the nutrition, physical activity, outdoor play, and screen time in their classroom using the Go NAP SACC (Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment in Child Care) instrument, and discuss how this assessment can be used to develop more effective classroom programs.

**Come to the Early Start Conference and earn 20 hours QTC registered PD this September school holidays!**



Attending the  
**2015 UOW Early Start Conference**  
will contribute **16 hours** of QTC  
Registered PD addressing  
**Standard Descriptors 1.1.2, 1.2.2, 1.3.2, 1.4.2, 2.5.2, 2.6.2, 3.3.2, 3.4.2, 3.5.2, 3.6.2, 4.1.2, 5.1.2, 6.2.2, 7.4.2** from the Australian  
Professional Standards for  
Teachers towards maintaining  
**'Proficient'** Teacher Accreditation  
in NSW.



Completing the Pre-conference **Workshop:**  
**'Creating a Stronger Social-Emotional Climate in the Classroom'** will contribute **2 hours** of QTC Registered PD addressing  
**Standard Descriptors 1.2.2, 3.5.2, 4.1.2, 5.1.2, 6.2.2, and 7.4.2** from the Australian  
Professional Standards for Teachers  
towards maintaining **'Proficient'** Teacher  
Accreditation in NSW.



Completing the Pre-conference **Workshop:**  
**'How to self-assess the nutrition and physical activity environments in Early Stage 1 and make changes based on the results'** will contribute **2 hours** of QTC  
Registered PD addressing **Standard Descriptors 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 3.6.2, 5.1.2, 6.2.2, and 7.4.2** from the Australian Professional  
Standards for Teachers towards maintaining  
**'Proficient'** Teacher Accreditation in NSW.



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