



## Alliance for Childhood

Provisional information on forthcoming conference



*Movement, Play and Emotional Relationships as a Foundation for Learning*  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2008 10.00am - 3.30 pm  
University of East London, Docklands Campus  
4 – 6 University Way, London E16 2RD

CONTRIBUTORS INCLUDE: Joan Almon *Alliance for Childhood US*; Sally Blythe *INPP*; Christopher Clouder *Alliance for Childhood UK*; Jenny Drake *Primary Maths Consultant*; Jan White *Education Consultant for Outdoor Provision in the Early Years*; Penny Wilson *Play Association Tower Hamlets*

- The restrictions of a modern childhood, with reduced opportunities for movement, produce problems. A couch-potato lifestyle can have mental as well as physical consequences. Babies who don't crawl or aren't active enough in their first year retain their newborn reflexes and have to struggle against them. Not only could they have difficulty in reading and writing, but they may also be clumsy and uncoordinated, have trouble tying shoelaces, riding a bicycle, catching balls and find it hard to do things that involve two skills together.
- There is a growing appreciation of the importance and value of learning through play outdoors. In a world where it is perceived that children can no longer 'play out' freely and safely we need approaches for early childhood education that are appropriate and effective for young children's all-round well-being and development .
- It is the teacher that is the determining factor in the quality of learning, not how we group children, class size or a number of other factors which are often as being of paramount importance. Relationships within education and how this impacts on the children as learners and people is what makes the difference.

### PROGRAMME

10.00 coffee and registration

10.30 Introductory talk - Christopher Clouder

10.45 Sally Blythe - presentation on physical readiness for formal education

11.45 Jan White - Children, movement and outdoor play: How can a rich and playful outdoor environment help young children get the movement experiences they need for healthy sensory development?

12.15 Discussion

12.45 Lunch

1.30 Joan Almon, Jenny Drake, Penny Wilson (25 min presentations)

3.00 Discussion and concluding words from Christopher Clouder

3.30 Tea/home

THERE IS A FEE OF £60 TO COVER COSTS for the day which include lunch, refreshments and travel expenses. As we do not want the cost to be an obstacle for anyone who wishes to take part, we will use a proportion of the income to create a travel fund. If you need help with travel costs, please contact us.

To register or receive further information please complete the form below or contact:

*Alliance for Childhood*, Kidbrooke Park, Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5JA

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Website: [www.allianceforchildhood.org.uk](http://www.allianceforchildhood.org.uk)



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### Registration Form

**Closing date for Registration: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008**

Name .....

Organisation .....

Address .....

Post Code .....

Phone .....

E-mail .....

Lunch:            Vegetarian/Meat

Do you have any special requirements?

I enclose a cheque for £60 or

Please invoice .....  
(Delete as required)

Signed ..... Date .....

**Directions to Docklands Campus:** The Docklands Light Railway station, Cyprus, is right at the entrance to the Campus. For further information: [http://www.uel.ac.uk/about\\_uel/why\\_uel/travelwise.htm#docklands](http://www.uel.ac.uk/about_uel/why_uel/travelwise.htm#docklands) Car parking space is restricted, so please use public transport.

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Website: [www.allianceforchildhood.org.uk](http://www.allianceforchildhood.org.uk)

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