

# FDCA 2025

MELB2025

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THURSDAY 23 OCT 2025

| TIME          | REGISTRATION DESK | EXHIBITION HALL  |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 14.30 - 17.30 | Registrations     |                  |
| 18.00 - 20.00 |                   | Welcome Function |

FRIDAY 24 OCT 2025

| TIME          | GRAND BALLROOM   |  |   |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| 8.40 - 8.45   | Housekeeping   |  |   |  |  |
| 8.45 - 8.55   | Welcome to Country   |  |   |  |  |
| 8.55 - 9.05   | CEO Welcome  |  |   |  |  |
| 9.05 - 9.30   | VIP Address  |  |   |  |  |
| 9.30 - 10.30  | <b>Keynote Address</b> - Nathan Wallis - Understand your Brain: The First 1,000 Days   |  |   |  |  |
| 10.30 - 11.10 | Morning Tea  |  |   |  |  |
| TIME          | ROOM A   | ROOM B   | ROOM C  | ROOM D   | ROOM E   |
| 11.10 - 12.10 | Sylvia Arotin, CEO & Founder, Guide and Grow<br><br>How to Get Kids to Listen - The Power of Conscious Communication   | Siobhan Kennedy-Costantini, Director, Science Minded<br><br>The Science of Temperament and Emotion Regulation: Practical Tools for Fostering Self-Regulation and Understanding Diverse Behavioural Needs | Dr Kerry Smith, Adjunct Research Fellow, Griffith University<br><br>Engaging in Play - The Play Cycle Theory in Family Day Care Settings  | Trish Osgood, Be You Consultant, Be You<br><br>Supporting Leaders to Support Educators: Creating Responsive Approaches to Educator Wellbeing | Nicole Halton, Director & Lauren Jackson, National Children's Services Manager, Inspired EC<br><br>Connect, Reflect, Embed: Our Journey of Exploring The Child Safe Standards and what they look like in Family Day Care |
| 12.10 - 12.20 | Short Break  |  |   |  |  |
| 12.20 - 13.20 | Laura Hewitson, Field Coordinator, Foundations Family Day Care<br><br>Streamlining for Success: Making the Most of Technology and Automation in Family Day Care Management | Samantha Dellamarta, Facilitator & Olivia Brown, Facilitator, Safeguarding Training Australia<br><br>Child Safety in Family Day Care - Prioritising Prevention   | Paula Pittam, Director of Family Day Care Programs, Department for Education South Australia, Jemma Henley, Inclusion Professional Team Leader & Uncle Tamaru, Aboriginal Consultant, Gowrie SA<br><br>Walking alongside: Our relationship with Kauruanu Tamaru teaching us about Kaurua language and culture | Ben Mueller, Director & and Principal Accountant, FDC Tax<br><br>Tax and Accounting for Educators  | Australian Government Department of Education<br><br>Workshop Title to be Confirmed  |
| TIME          | GRAND BALLROOM   |  |   |  |  |
| 13.20 - 14.20 | Lunch  |  |   |  |  |
| 14.20 - 15.50 | <b>Plenary Workshop</b> - Nathan Wallis - Engage Your Brain: 2-7 Years   |  |   |  |  |
| 15.50 - 16.20 | Afternoon Tea  |  |   |  |  |
| 16.20 - 16.50 | <b>Keynote Address</b> - Meena Singh, Acting Principal Commissioner & Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People in Victoria                                    |  |   |  |  |
| 16.50 - 17.00 | Day One Wrap Up  |  |   |  |  |

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Nathan Wallis**  
Neuroscience  
Educator



**Dr Jana Pittman**  
Dual Olympian



**Anne Hollonds**  
National Children's  
Commissioner



**Meena Singh**  
Acting Principal Commissioner  
for Children and Young People &  
Commissioner for Aboriginal Children  
and Young People in Victoria

## SATURDAY 25 OCT 2025

| TIME          | GRAND BALLROOM  |  |   |   |   |
|---------------|---|--|---|---|---|
| 9.00 - 9.05   | Welcome   |  |   |   |   |
| 9.05 - 10.05  | <b>Keynote Address</b> - Dr Jana Pittman: Change the Beat of Your Drum  |  |   |   |   |
| 10.05 - 10.45 | Morning Tea   |  |   |   |   |
| TIME          | ROOM A  | ROOM B   | ROOM C  | ROOM D  | ROOM E  |
| 10.45 - 11.45 | Kylie Clark, Director, Kids Family Day Care<br><br>Stress-Free Programming   Achieving Quality Without the Complexity | Stephanie Hoy, Family Day Care Educator, West Country Family Day Care Scheme<br><br>Setting the Foundations for Children to Become Experts at Play | Kristine Eldridge, Nominated Supervisor, Campbelltown Family Day Care<br><br>Innovative Leadership – Creating Leaders in Family Day Care  | Marie Armstrong, Director, Early Years Care<br><br>Collaborative Art for Wellbeing - Process Over Product | Rebecca Karslake, Manager - Integrated Children's Services & Natasha de Jong, Family Day Care Field Officer, Ballarat Family Day Care<br><br>Connections with the Community in Family Day Care              |
| 11.45 - 11.55 | Short Break   |  |   |   |   |
| 11.55 - 12.55 | Beverley Egan, Director, We Belong Family Day Care<br><br>Digital Media in a Family Day Care Setting                  | Victoria Edmond, Director, Big Hearted Education<br><br>Swingin' the Pendulum Back to a Simpler Time   | Natashja Treveton, Managing Director, Inspired EC & Jackie Bennett, Co-Founder, Connecting the Dots Through Culture<br><br>Embedding First Nations Perspectives and Cultural Awareness in Family Day Care | Perry Campbell, Senior Manager National Projects, ACECQA<br><br>Place-based Service Delivery              | Ashton Posch, Family Day Care Educator, Busy Butterflies Education and Care<br><br>Celebrating Play and Finding Joy in Neurodiversity in the Family Day Care Environment: Neurodiversity Affirming Practice |
| TIME          | GRAND BALLROOM  |  |   |   |   |
| 12.55 - 13.55 | Lunch   |  |   |   |   |
| 13.55 - 14.55 | <b>Keynote Address</b> - Anne Hollonds, National Children's Commissioner  |  |   |   |   |
| 14.55 - 15.00 | Conference Wrap Up  |  |   |   |   |

## SATURDAY 25 OCT 2025

| TIME          | GRAND BALLROOM   |
|---------------|--|
| 19.00 – 23.00 | <b>Conference Gala Dinner</b> - Including the 2025 Excellence in Family Day Care Awards presentation |

PULLMAN HOTEL - MELBOURNE - ALBERT PARK  
23-25 OCTOBER 2025