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| A group of people standing in front of a sunset  Description automatically generated Three-year old’s in early childhood education: (A dialogue about) a paradox in play?OMEP Victoria invite you to join Professor Jayne White (RMIT University) and Dr Sheena Elwick (Charles Sturt University) for a FREE online professional learning event. In dialogue with our presenters, you are warmly invited to share your thoughts and ideas of programs, policy and provision of services for children aged three years in the Victorian and NSW context.When: Tuesday 25th August, 2020Time: 7 – 8pm Format: Zoom online conference To register and access your online link please email Kim Browne at [brownek@deakin.edu.au](mailto:brownek@deakin.edu.au) by Monday 24th August. A picture containing game  Description automatically generated |  |

Dear Colleagues,

You are invited to attend this upcoming online OMEP event. We look forward to your contributions and discussion during the evening. Hosted by Kim Browne (Victorian Director of OMEP), the one-hour presentation by Professor Jayne White and Dr Sheena Elwick invites you to be actively involved and to engage in their research regarding early childhood education in Victoria and NSW. Please find relevant information about the research and presenters included here.

About the research:

**Three-year old’s in ECE: (A dialogue about) a paradox at play?**

With increased enrolments of younger children in ECE than ever before, their co-location has led to a rich array of provision across services, states and countries. The separation or integration of different age groups is underscored by extant theories and their associated ideological tenets across policy, curriculum, and provision. On one hand, developmental theory emphasises age specificity. On the other, post-structural theory collapses age demarcations altogether - positing a universal child. The former manifest in single age groupings while the latter in what is commonly known as ‘mixed age’ provision - representing what White (2019) has described as a 'paradox of age' for ECE.  As a consequence of recent policy shifts in Victoria and NSW concerning ECE for three year-olds, and against a complex state-Federal policy climate for ECE in general, we sent out a survey across both states in February this year as a starting place to understand how this paradox 'looks' in ECE provision for three year-olds in particular, according to ECE services. In their presentation White & Elwick will share some of the findings from the survey and invite participants to make sense of them in relation to the paradox at play. This research draws from the Teaching and Learning Research Initiative (TLRI). For further information please follow this link:   
<http://www.tlri.org.nz/tlri-research/research-completed/ece-sector/age-responsive-pedagogies-%E2%80%98preschool%E2%80%99-ece-teachers>

About the researchers:

Professor E. Jayne White: Jayne is the Associate Dean of Early Childhood at RMIT University School of Education. As an educator of over forty years of experience, Jayne brings a wealth of passion in dialogue with all children in the early years. Drawing on her roots as an early childhood teacher in Aotearoa, New Zealand and later, as a university lecturer, Jayne seeks to engage with all learners and to ignite learning potential through early childhood pedagogies, particularly visual pedagogies. Jayne leads a wide range of research projects and has authored numerous books, resources and journal publications, nationally and internationally, including in her home country of New Zealand. To learn more about Jayne please follow this link: [www.ejaynewhite.com](http://www.ejaynewhite.com)

Dr Sheena Elwick: Sheena is a Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Education at Charles Sturt University within the School of Education on the Albury-Wodonga campus. Sheena is a passionate and experienced practitioner in tertiary education and early childhood settings. She facilitates the ‘Reclaiming being three: Reflecting, learning and imagining’ professional learning group with staff and practitioners. This group is open to all services that include children aged three in their setting. Sheena holds a strong record of research publication, leadership and as an active member of professional associations. Sheena is particularly interested in the development, learning and wellbeing of children aged three and under. To learn more about Sheena please follow this link: <https://arts-ed.csu.edu.au/schools/education/staff/profiles/lecturers/sheena-elwick>