

SEPLA•CON 2025

Co-hosted with the
2025 ASEPA National Conference
ICC Sydney 21+22 July 2025



Monday, 21 July 2025

7.00 am	Conference Registration and Exhibition Visits – Tea and Coffee on Arrival
8.15 am	Delegates to be seated in the Darling Harbour Theatre
8.15 am	Darling Harbour Theatre Opening Performance by Rhythm Village
8.30 am	Opening Session Simon Breakspear, Conference Facilitator
8.40 am	Welcome to Country
8.45 am	Welcome to SEPLA-CON 2025 and the 2025 ASEPA National Conference Matthew Johnson, National President, ASEPA and NSW President, SEPLA
8.55 am	Conference Opening Deb Summerhayes, Deputy Secretary, NSW Department of Education
9.10 am	Conference Facilitator Simon Breakspear
9.30 am	Keynote Presentation The Silent Cost – How to Protect Your School and Yourself from Secondary Trauma Dr Adam Fraser
10.30 am	Morning Tea and Exhibitor Visits
11.00 am	Move to Breakout Rooms
11.10 am	Darling Harbour Theatre - Chair: Julie Raciborska Utilising Competing Pathways to Explicitly Teach Meaningful Skills and Functionally Equivalent Behaviours Belinda Waters, Jake Elvin and Helen Bryce, Department of Education, NSW
	Room C4.3 – Chair: Mercedes Wilkinson From Illness to Wellness: How a Multidisciplinary Approach, With High Expectations, Leads to Better Outcomes Claire Brickley and Linda Brooke-Smith, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital School, NSW

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	<p>Room C4.4 – Chair: Lisa Moffat</p> <p>Inspiring Excellence in Supporting Student Communication Bronwyn Motion and Catherine Hurman, Malkara Specialist School, ACT</p>
	<p>Room C4.5 – Chair: Matt Eastman</p> <p>Building Bridges: Innovative Strategies to Empower Teachers and Amplify Student Voice in Trauma-Impacted Classrooms Dannielle Chapman, Shelby Windon, Amit Prasad, Katie Zorzo, Adam Finch and Daniel Brown, Niland School, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.6 – Chair: Jacqueline Lockyer</p> <p>Transforming Physical Education: Embracing Innovation and Inclusivity Mitch Oxley and Hayley Mills, Lucas Gardens School, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.7 – Chair: Nic Danta</p> <p>Getting to the Heart of 'IT' using Project Based Learning – Part 1 Caz Muldoon, Department of Education, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.8 – Chair: Shane Garrett</p> <p>Beyond the Dice: Unlocking Creativity and Critical Thinking Through Collaborative Storytelling Games Andrew Kingsford-Smith, Ajuga School, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.9 – Chair: Jane Crosland</p> <p>The IEP Evolution Ross Whitfeld and Calum Blyth, The Beach School, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.10 – Diana Murphy</p> <p>CONNECT, EMPOWER, SUCCEED: Sydney Catholic Schools Post-School Pathways for Students with Disability Dianna Martic, Maria Tripolone and Tracie Halfpenny, Sydney Catholic Schools, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.11 – Danielle Coonan</p> <p>Re-imagining Senior Pathways for Students with Disabilities. Dr Deborah McIntyre and Nicola Kelly, Centenary State High School, QLD</p>
11.50 am	Move to Breakout Rooms
12.00 pm	<p>Darling Harbour Theatre - Chair: Jacqueline Lockyer</p> <p>Beyond the Bell: Building Lifelong Skills Outside the Classroom Through Play Andrew Bullen and Belinda Mahendran, Department of Education, NSW</p>

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	<p>Room C4.3 – Chair: Danielle Coonan Literacy at Joondalup Education Support Centre Brianna Wimbridge, Joondalup Education Support Centre, WA</p>
	<p>Room C4.4 – Chair: Lisa Moffat The MANIFEST Framework: Evidence-Based Practices for Engaging Students with Intellectual Disability in Learning. Katy Campisi, Sydney Catholic Schools, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.5 – Chair: Shane Garrett Transforming Conflict into Connection with Restorative Practices. Philip De Zylva, NSW Department of Education</p>
	<p>Room C4.6 – Mercedes Wilkinson Bridging Boundaries: A Collaborative Partnership Between Hospital Schools and the Georges River Environmental Education Centre Brianna Clifford, Kay Howe and Antonina Fieni, Bankstown Hospital School, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.7 – Nic Danta Getting to the Heart of ‘It’ Using Project-Based Learning – Part 2 Daniel Constantinou, Bowraville Central School, NSW and Kat Brown, Wingham High School, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.8 – Chair: Matt Eastman Autism and Bullying: “Change the Environment, Not the Child” Prof Iva Strnadova, Sam Hurd, Dr Michelle Tso and Patrick Hawker, UNSW Sydney, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.9 – Chair: Diana Murphy Empowering Learning: Assessment Tools and Syllabus Planning Guides for Students With Complex Learning Needs Salam Haidar and Poppy Kostantakis, Literacy and Numeracy – NSW Department of Education</p>
	<p>Room C4.10 – Chair: Julie Raciborska Harnessing the Power of Music to Foster Creativity, Inclusivity, and Self-Expression in Special Education Daniel Lupevski, The Rhythm Village; Pen Earp, Wairoa School and Aoife Cosgrove Wairoa School, NSW</p>
	<p>Room C4.11 – Chair: Jane Crosland From Goals to Growth: Leveraging Frameworks for School-Wide Monitoring of Student Growth in Learning Plans Kathryn McCrorey, Elaine Howard, Simone Brayne, Sharon Stone, Budawang School, NSW</p>
12.50 pm	Lunch and Exhibition Visits

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1.50 pm	Move to Darling Harbour Theatre
2.00 pm	Closing Keynote Presentation Jess Irwin
2.50 pm	Day 1 Wrap Up and Exhibitor Prize Draw Simon Breakspear and Matt Johnson, NSW President, SEPLA
3.00 pm	Teachers Day Close and Prize Collection from Registration
6.30 pm	Conference Dinner – Doltone House, Darling Island

* All Conference activities and schedules are subject to change without notice

** Session attendance is on a first come, first served basis

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Tuesday, 22 July 2025

7.45 am	Conference Registration -Tea and Coffee on Arrival
8.35 am	Delegates to be seated in the Cockle Bay Room
8.30 am	Cockle Bay Room The Rhythm Village Sound Bath
8.45 am	Day 2 Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country Simon Breakspear
8.55 am	ASEPA and SEPLA NSW President Address Matthew Johnson, ASEPA National President
9.05 am	Half Day Workshop Vicarious Resilience – Creating a School Culture That Not Only Reduces Secondary Trauma but Simultaneously Drives Connection and High Performance Dr Adam Fraser
10.30 am	Morning Tea
11.00 am	Half Day Workshop (continued) Dr Adam Fraser
12:30pm	Lunch and Exhibitor Visits
1.20 pm	Move to Concurrent Sessions
1.25 pm	Room: C3.3 – Chair: Julie Raciborska My Say My Way: Inclusive Voice Platform for Complex learners Natalie Johnston-Anderson, Nicole Rigele and Diane Robertson, Department of Education, NSW
	Room: C3.4/C3.5 – Chair: Jacqueline Lockyer How Can Schools for Specific Purpose Implement the High Potential Gifted Education Policy? Jo Grey, Sue Vasilevska, Bohdan Galla-Bow, NSW Department of Education
	Room: C3.6 – Chair: Lisa Moffat Evidence-Informed Debriefing Framework for Teachers Post a Critical Incident Michelle Garnett, Fisher Road School, NSW

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	<p>Room: Cockle Bay Room – Chair: Matt Eastman</p> <p>Co-Creating Inclusive Relationships Education: The R+R Program's Impact on Student Knowledge Prof Iva Strnadova, UNSW Sydney, NSW</p>
2.05 pm	Move to Concurrent Sessions
2.10 pm	<p>Room: C3.3 – Chair: Diana Murphy</p> <p>Use of Talking Mats to Amplify Student Voice at the Ponds School Betty Campbell and Leonie Donaldson, The Ponds School, NSW</p>
	<p>Room: C3.4/C3.5 – Chair: Matt Eastman</p> <p>Do Universities Have What It Takes to Produce Inspired Special Educators? Dr Jennifer Stephenson, InSpEd and Macquarie University, NSW</p>
	<p>Room: C3.6 – Chair Mercedes Wilkinson</p> <p>Supporting Autistic Students With Suicidal Behaviours: What Can School-Link Do to Support Schools? Natalie Hunter and Hebah Saleh, Sydney Children's Hospital Network, NSW</p>
	<p>Room: Cockle Bay Room – Chair: Jane Crosland</p> <p>Designing Regulation Spaces: A 7-Step Guide to Developing and Using Regulation Spaces Within Schools Amy Thompson and Cara Smith, NSW Department of Education</p>
2.50 pm	Afternoon Tea
3.15 pm	<p>Room: C3.3 – Chair: Diana Murphy</p> <p>AI as Your Strategic Collaborator: Leading with Clarity, Confidence and Care Trudy Graham, Leaders Learning Pty Ltd, QLD</p>
	<p>Room: C3.4/C3.5 – Chair – Julie Raciborska</p> <p>Flipping the Script Amidst Complexity: Fostering Middle Leaders to Improve School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support Practices Lauren Rolfe and Nicole Taber, NSW Department of Education, NSW</p>
	<p>Room: C3.6 – Chair: Danielle Coonan</p> <p>Outdoor Spaces in Special Education - Purposeful Landscape Design to Enhance Play, Learning, Sensory Health Mary Jeavons, Jeavons Landscape Architects</p>

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	Room: Cockle Bay Room – Chair: Shane Garrett Addressing Special Education Teachers’ Support Needs: Insights From the Australian Context Merryll-Anne Cobb-Clark, University of New South Wales, NSW
3.55 pm	Move to the Cockle Bay Room
4.00 pm	Keynote Presentation Time For a Reset - Supporting Educators to Find Balance Kirsten Douglas, Headspace
4.40 pm	Simon Breakspear
4.50 pm	Conference Wrap Up and Exhibitor Prize Draw
5.00 pm	Close of SEPLA-CON 2025

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