

92nd QoC Talk:

**Meaningful schooling: Why we need
to create attractive environments.
Beyond just 'tolerable' education**



• **Invitation** •

By MEP

Niels Geuking

EPP - European People's Party - Germany

Date and Time:

Tuesday 5th March 2024 from 10.00 to 11.30 CET

Location:

European Parliament Building
Rue Wiertz 60, 1047 Bruxelles, Belgium
Room A5E-3

The QoC Talk will be also streamed online

Post-QoC:

The event will be followed by an informal meeting/refreshment (Post-QoC) where participants will get a chance to continue conversation with speakers and discuss implications of the presentation, hosted in the Alliance for Childhood Office.

Time:

5th March 2024 (same day) from 12.00 until 14.00 CET

Registration:

To register and receive the full programme, please write to Ms. Esther Brunnen:
esther.brunner@europarl.europa.eu

If you need a badge to access the European Parliament, please provide also your IDs details (including date of birth and expire date) in the email.

For those who registered already with the link of the previous invitation, the registration has been collected and included in the list of participants.

Deadline to register: 29th February.

Background and context

There is no longer any doubt that positive mental health and well-being also increase academic achievements in formal (schools) and non-formal settings. Declining mental health in schools is mirrored by falling PISA results, especially in Europe; trends that have been exacerbated by Covid, but were evident even before the pandemic began.

We would like to present research findings on how children and young people experience their education, particularly the impact on their mental health and well-being of how they perceive the irrelevance of school to their futures and their lives.

How can we reverse these trends? How can we make school not only more attractive and engaging, but have it make a positive contribution to well-being and young people's need to live in their communities and as part of a wider global and digital society?

We will introduce ideas for how to create joyful classroom environments, where independent learning is central to the well-being of every student, and where potential can flourish.

A practical case study

We will explore the approach of a school who have recognised that, despite many external indicators of success (good school inspections, standardised testing results and parent satisfaction ratings), their curriculum and pedagogy is not sufficient to inspire and enthuse their children. The headteacher describes how the children are 'merely tolerating their education', and is concerned that they are in danger of becoming educationally disengaged, disenchanting and disenfranchised long before they even reach the turbulent times of adolescence.

To raise levels of engagement, enjoyment, resilience and independence, the school has joined a research project to 're-think' both their curriculum and the environment in which it is delivered. All areas of the curriculum will be enhanced by practical, creative and independent learning activities: storytelling, playing games, engineering 'maker-spaces', and artistic and creative resources. Teacher focus will be on precision teaching, individualised feedback and relationship building.

We invite you to reflect on the evidence, and experience a different approach.

Overall objectives of the QoC Talks:

- To gain a better understanding of the Quality of Childhood in the EU Member States.
- To reflect on the role that the European institutions can play to improve the situation.
- To get to grips with the values, principles and approaches that could lead to improvements for children both in Europe and around the world.
- To form an effective working group and to get a sense of how to move on.

Programme Outline for Tuesday 5th March 2024

- **10.00 Words of welcome at the European Parliament**
Niels Geuking • Member of the European Parliament
- **10.10 Alliance for Childhood plans for the new year**
Christopher Clouder • Chairman of the Alliance for Childhood - European Network Group (ENG)
- **10.20 How do young people feel about school? School experience and well-being among young people in Europe**
Jo Inchley • International Coordinator of the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) Study
- **10.40 Rethinking Curriculum, Re-imagining the Classroom**
Kath Bransby • UK ECSWE representative and Rethinking Curriculum, Re-imagining the Classroom
- **11.00 Video Message Wifa Cologne business school, education and further training**
Svenja Schneider • Childhood education and management
- **11.10 Open debate with the audience - What we can add on what introduced by the speakers**
Facilitator: Chiara Piccolo • Managing Director of the Alliance for Childhood ENG
- **11.20 Wrap up and closing remarks**
Christopher Clouder • Chairman of the Alliance for Childhood - European Network Group (ENG)
- **11.30 End of the event**
- **12.00 - 14.00 Post QoC session: To enter more in depth on the topic through an informal "easy lunch" session with speakers**
Host: Daniel Kropf • Chair and Founder of the Learning for Well-being Foundation
Location: Alliance for Childhood office

Remark:

A recording will be made of the session and parts of it will be put on the website of the Alliance for Childhood and on the website of the hosting MEP.

Disclaimer:

The organisers organise this session on a best effort basis. However changes in parts of the programme or the entire programme may occur due to unforeseen circumstances and the organisers cannot be held liable for that. No rights may be derived from this programme.

Secretariat for this session:**Chiara Piccolo**

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