

Education Conference 2020



Speaker biographies

Cathy Magee and Emma Malins, Conference Co-chairs



Cathy has been Chief Executive of Dyslexia Scotland since 2007. Since then, the staff team has grown from 3 to 7. Together with the support of many dedicated volunteers, our capacity to deliver a wider range of services at both a national and local level has grown too.

Emma is one of our Young Ambassadors and along with other Young Ambassadors, helps to raise awareness across Scotland. Emma is studying film at Napier University.

Neil Mackay, Freelance Consultant and Trainer

Neil is a freelance consultant and trainer who created the concept of Dyslexia Friendly Schools. He is an experienced teacher who has taught for 26 years, working with children with a wide range of ages, needs and ability.



He is known for his ability to bring the classroom into his training and for providing lively, entertaining and thought provoking opportunities for teachers and teaching assistants to reflect on and develop their practice. Neil will talk about boosting the inclusive quality of your classroom/practice/ lessons.

Yasmine and Suzette Clarke



Yasmine is a Young Ambassador for Dyslexia Scotland. Suzette is Yasmine's Mum. They will talk about the roller-coaster of emotions that have occurred across the years as they have navigated the school system and learned more about dyslexia and dyscalculia along the way.

Charlie Martin, Partnership Manager, The Wise Group

Charlie has been involved in the through care and re-integration of short term prisoners since 2007 when he joined the Wise Group as a Life Coach in the highly successful "Routes Out of Prison" project.



Since then he has carried out various roles within the Wise Group. His most recent role encompasses Partnership and Performance Management of Community Justice Programmes, including the New Routes Public Social Partnership which is operated on a national basis and is funded by Scottish Government. Charlie was seconded to the Scottish Government in August 2018 for a period of two years, developing policy for the Justice Directorate.

Charlie will talk about the impact that dyslexia has had on his life journey.