

The Pillars of Parenting Psychology Conference 2026

Monday the 5th of October 2026

Venue: The Michell Room, Hampshire County Council, Queen Elizabeth II Building,
Sussex Street, Winchester, SO23 8BH.

From 09.00 hrs to 16.00 hrs

This year's theme is: Attunement

Emphasising the importance of the person in the parenting role, Bruce Perry, in his book 'The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog' (2008) says:

'Most of the therapeutic experiences do not take place in 'Therapy' but in naturally occurring healthy relationships. The most effective treatments to help child trauma victims is anything that increases the quality and number of relationships in the child's life.'

The process which makes 'naturally occurring healthy relationships' between a child and their carer, effective and powerful is **Attunement**.

The programme includes:

- **Colin Maginn: 'The Science and Joy of Attunement'**
- **Dr Yvonne Walker: Attunement: Interrupting the Pathway from Childhood Adversity to Addiction.**
- **Dr Emma Fitz-Gerald and Ms Anne Duggan: 'Being PACE-ful'**
Based on the work of Dr Dan Hughes on P.A.C.E.
Playfulness – Acceptance – Curiosity – Empathy
- **Dr Julia Alfano: The Role of Attunement in Child/Adult Dyad Play in Child Development**
- **Workforce Wellbeing:** Colin Maginn will outline The Pillars of Parenting best practice suggestions on Workforce Wellbeing. Then, with Dr Jessica Dewey, we will invite ideas and suggestions from the floor on best practices for the workforce wellbeing of children's home workers.

To book your place at the conference, please email Colin Maginn:

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