

The childcare and early years conference 2027 by **coram pacey**

Saturday 6 February 2027 | Bishopsgate Institute, London

SPEAKERS





Our speakers

Patrice Laurence MBE - Writer and Children's Laureate



Patrice Lawrence is an award-winning writer. Her debut YA novel, *Orangeboy* (Hachette), won the Bookseller YA Prize and the Waterstones Prize for Older Children's Fiction and was shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book Award. Her subsequent novels have been much acclaimed and frequent visitors to prize lists including the Jhalak Children's and Young Adult Prize and the YA Book Prize. Her most recent book, *People Like Stars* (Scholastic) was shortlisted for the Nero Book Awards.

Eunice Lumsden OBE - Emeritus Professor of Child Advocacy



Eunice Lumsden OBE is Emeritus Professor of Child Advocacy at the University of Northampton and the former Head of Childhood Youth and Families. Professor Lumsden has served on several government advisory groups on infant mental health, early years qualifications and safeguarding. She also led the development of the Early Childhood Graduate Competencies for the Early Childhood Studies Degree Network and is the Editor in Chief of the *International Journal of Birth and Parent Education*.

Amit Kalley - Founder, For Working Parents



Amit is the founder of For Working Parents, a company that helps organisations, schools and colleges truly understand digital parenting and digital safeguarding. A former Deputy Headteacher and International Coaching Federation coach, Amit combines senior leadership experience with coaching expertise to create more empathetic, human-centred workplaces and educational environments.

Meggie Fisher - Head of Quality, Dingley's Promise



Having worked for many mainstream Early Years providers, Meggie is now the Head of Quality for Dingley's Promise, working closely with the teams in their specialist centres to ensure the delivery of high-quality teaching and excellent inclusive practice and support for children. She is passionate about creating the best start for every child, recognising the unique opportunity we have to build strong foundations for lifelong learning and celebrating each child as an individual.

More speakers to be announced!

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The Childcare Insurance Specialist



Workshop hosts



Sue Lee - Partner Relationship Director, Morton Michel

Sue Lee is the Partner Relationship Director at Morton Michel. She is an experienced leader within the insurance industry and has led specialist insurance businesses across care, childcare and education over many years. Sue believes strong working partnerships, collaboration, and being actively involved in the sector is the foundation for continued development, innovation, and success



Pennie Akehurst - Author and Early Years Specialist

Pennie Akehurst is an author and leadership specialist with over 30 years' experience in early years. She's worked across private, voluntary, maintained and public services, and spent 17 years in local authorities developing practical support that helped providers strengthen practice, navigate legislation and improve outcomes for children.



Aftab Hussain (ACCA)

Aftab is ANNA Money's resident Accounting and Tax expert, with over 20 years' experience across accounting, tax and business advisory. A Chartered Certified Accountant, he plays a key role in shaping ANNA's tools and services, combining his expertise in digital transformation and product innovation to deliver practical, digitally native solutions.

Aftab is also the driving force behind the products developed specifically for Coram PACEY members. He has invested significant time understanding the childcare sector's accounting and tax needs, developing tailored solutions that simplify compliance and reduce the administrative burden for childcare professionals.



Jan Dubiel - Programme Director, Coram Hemsalls

Jan Dubiel is a programme director at Coram Hemsall's leading early years curriculum projects through hey! and Moving the Box. He is an internationally recognised early childhood education consultant and adviser, once identified by The Times Educational Supplement (TES) as one of the 10 most influential people in British education. Jan has served on the Expert Group advising the Department for Education, and on a review of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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