

SIG Report

Special Interest Group

Children from Refugee or Migrant Backgrounds

SIG Convenors

Donna Gaywood Jennifer Koutoulas

Number of SIG members

7

Activities undertaken by the SIG since establishment

- Setting up of a Facebook page which currently has sixty members
 - Monthly meetings with EECERA members via Zoom
 - Conducted an open SIG meeting (25.10.20) via Zoom to co-inside with the EECERA Convocation 2020. Five members presented their research
 - Presentations prepared for EECERA SOS online festival 2021: Perspectives on the experiences of children from a refugee or migrant background in ECEC
 - Recently initiated “Letters of Positionality” project with Good Chance to examine and reflect on issues of positionality when working with refugee children.
- Three members of EECERA were invited to co author a research paper published in April 2021, and EECERA SIG was acknowledged for their contribution
<https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/13/9/4758/htm>
- Partnering with Good Chance charity to support The Walk www.walkwithamal.org
 - Created an Early Years Resource pack for The Walk to be offered to young children as part of The Walk activities
 - Development of a research proposal: Amal’s corridor of friends
 - Currently seeking funding for 2-3-year research project.

Report on SIG Activities this past year

The Special Interest Group on Children from Refugee or Migrant Backgrounds formed in Thessaloniki 2019, following a number of presentations about research within this field.

The group has currently achieved the following:

- Setting up of a Facebook page which currently has sixty members
- Monthly meetings with EECERA members via Zoom
- Conducted an open SIG meeting (25.10.20) via Zoom to co-inside with the EECERA Convocation 2020. Five members presented their research
- Three members of EECERA were invited to co author a research paper published in April 2021, and EECERA SIG was acknowledged for their contribution
<https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/13/9/4758/htm>
- Partnering with Good Chance charity to support The Walk www.walkwithamal.org
- Created an Early Years Resource pack for The Walk to be offered to young children as part of The Walk activities
- Presentations prepared for EECERA SOS online festival 2021: Perspectives on the experiences of children from a refugee or migrant background in ECEC
- Development of a research proposal: Amal’s corridor of friends
- Currently seeking funding for 2-3-year research project.
- Recently initiated “Letters of Positionality” project with Good Chance to examine and reflect on issues of positionality when working with refugee children.
- All members have and continue consultation with Good Chance charity teams to provide ethical guidance in

relation to Amal's Walk.

- In consultation with Manchester University regarding funding of the Early Years Pack project and collaboration
- Networking with early childhood and education services, communities and institutions in Greece, UK, Poland and Australia.

The number of registered EECERA SIG members is seven.

How SIG activities fit with aims and ethos of EECERA

The SIG has developed partnership with Good Chance Charity to pursue a collaborative research project.

Ethical guidance to Good Chance teams has provided deeper understandings and better outcomes for refugee children and families in a forthcoming charity event.

Publication, Early Years Pack and research will expand further understandings of sense of belonging for children from refugee or migrant backgrounds in Early Childhood and Education settings and empower cultural pedagogy.

Furthermore, enhance and empower culturally relevant pedagogy through the development and dissemination of the Early Years Pack, and research analysis.

Continued consultation and guidance with Good Chance charity teams is providing ethical advice to reduce negative impact on children from refugee or migrant backgrounds.

Networking, future plans and links to other institutions

- Continue partnership with Good Chance in relation to research project, and continue consultation with Manchester University regarding funding and research collaboration.
- Networking with early childhood and education services, communities and institutions in Greece, UK, Poland, Australia to analyse the early years pack.

- I have read the privacy policy and agree