



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**

## Successful Learning Conference 2026

*Thriving together: Psychosocial and academic wellbeing in education*

### Program | Tuesday 30 June 2026

8.45am	Zoom opens
9.00 - 9.10am	<b>Acknowledgement of Country and opening address</b> David Evans, Professor, Special and Inclusive Education, Sydney School of Education and Social Work, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of Sydney
9.10 - 10.20am	<b>Keynote address</b> <b>Understanding the fine-grained nuances in anxiety-achievement relations</b> Sarah Fishstrom, Assistant Professor, Department of Special Education - College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, US
10.20 - 10.40am	<b>Morning Tea</b>
10.40 - 11.30am	<b>Feature presentation</b> <b>The role of education within an ecosystem of supports for psychosocial disability</b> Jen Smith-Merry, Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow and Professor of Health and Social Policy in the Sydney School of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney
11.30 - 12.20pm	<b>Workshop presentation</b> <b>Finding Joy: A transformative approach to educator practice and wellbeing</b> Cathy Little, Associate Professor and Deputy Head of School, Sydney School of Education and Social Work, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of Sydney; and Dr Olivia Karaolis, Senior Lecturer in Special and Inclusive Education, University of Notre Dame, Sydney
12.20 - 1.00pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1.00 - 1.50pm	<b>Feature presentation</b> <b>Thriving Minds: Designing for safety, belonging and learning</b> Aaron Lanou, Inclusive Education Coach, Aaron Lanou Consulting, New York, US
1.50 - 2.40pm	<b>Workshop presentation</b> <b>Using positive behaviour and trauma informed practice to enhance student learning and wellbeing</b> Andrew Krisenthal, Deputy Principal - Inclusion and Support, Cambridge Park High School, Western Sydney
2.40 - 2.50pm	<b>Beverage break</b>
2.50 - 3.40pm	<b>Feature presentation</b> <b>Schools as ecosystems: A relational approach to learning, teaching and leadership</b> Eddie Woo, Professor of Practice - Mathematics Education, Sydney School of Education and Social Work, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of Sydney
3.40 - 4.30pm	<b>Feature presentation</b> <b>The first fifteen minutes: How Daily Review supports learning to read</b> Lorraine Hammond AM, Professor of Early Years Literacy, School of Education, The University of Notre Dame, Fremantle, WA
4.30pm	<b>Conference closing remarks</b> David Evans, Professor of Special and Inclusive Education, Sydney School of Education and Social Work, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of Sydney

*Proudly hosted by the Sydney School of Education and Social Work, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of Sydney*