**Call for Papers deadline extended to 14th February 2020**

**Autism Research Conference**

**Beyond the stereotypes: enhancing the recognition and education of autistic girls to improve their future quality of life**

**Call for Papers**7th, 8th and 9th September 2020  
University of Surrey  
<https://playingapartsurreyconference.wordpress.com/>

This three-day conference emerges from a research project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC); ‘Playing A/Part’: exploring the experiences and identities of autistic girls through participatory, interdisciplinary and creative research methods (Universities of Kent and Surrey). The conference aims to bring together academics, autistic people, medical practitioners, psychologists and teachers to share and discuss both theoretical and practical knowledge relating to the recognition, education and future lives of autistic girls. Each day will address a different theme of importance for enhancing and empowering the lives of autistic girls, women and marginalised gender identities.

Keynote presentations from

Day 1: [**Dr Fiona Gullon-Scott**](https://www.ncl.ac.uk/psychology/staff/profile/fionagullon-scott.html#background) **and** [**Katherine May**](http://katherine-may.com/)

Day 2: [**Professor Caroline Bond**](https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/en/researchers/caroline-bond(add2e483-caa6-484c-923c-4a00cf9acaf0).html)**, and Sarah Wild and pupils from** [**Limpsfield Grange**](https://limpsfieldgrange.co.uk/)

Day 3:[**Robyn Steward**](https://www.robynsteward.com/) **and** [**Dr Prithvi Perepa**](https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/education/perepa-prithvi.aspx) **and an ECR Keynote Panel (to be announced)**

We invite proposals for papers, workshops, symposia and posters (details of these formats are provided below) from academics, professionals, researchers, students and anyone with lived experience or an interest in the topic. Submissions should address in some way the theme of the relevant day (see below) and might include, but are not confined to, the following:

**Day 1: Recognition of autistic girls**

* Improving diagnostic recognition for autistic girls, women and marginalised genders
* Addressing the under representation/under-ascertainment of autistic girls and women, including bias against receiving assessment and bias against meeting diagnostic criteria
* Identifying and describing the lived experiences and characteristics of autistic girls
* Evidence based gender (in a non-binary sense) differences in autism, including gender-specific patterns in mental health for autistic girls, women and marginalised genders

**Day 2: Issues around the education of autistic girls**

* Identifying the educational needs of autistic girls
* Issues relating to the educational environment of autistic girls
* Supporting the wellbeing of autistic girls in educational contexts
* Consideration of alternative methods of education

**Day 3: Futures of autistic girls**

* Futures for autistic girls as adults
* Futures for participatory autism and gender research
* Autistic parenting
* New voices in Autism Research (includes keynote panel of early career researchers)
* Key issues and priorities for future research (e.g. mental health across the life course, interest led learning, autism and menopause, representing autistic girls with learning disabilities)

We encourage participants to attend the whole conference, but it will be possible to only attend one or two of the days.

Please submit your proposal via email to [playingapartconference@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:playingapartconference@surrey.ac.uk) using the form available for download from [here](https://playingapartsurreyconference.wordpress.com/call-for-papers/). Please include “Abstract Submission” in the subject line.

Call for papers close **Friday 14th February 2020** and presenters will be notified by **Friday 28th February 2020**.

* **For any queries please contact:** [playingapartconference@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:playingapartconference@surrey.ac.uk)

**TYPES OF PROGRAM SUBMISSIONS**

Papers are an oral presentation that may be supplemented by visual material (e.g. PowerPoint). For this conference 20-minute slots will be allocated, with time for questions. Submissions should be between 150-200 words and outline what will be discussed in the paper.

Workshops are a practical session that is led by an individual or a small group and will involve conference delegates participating in your work (or observing if appropriate). For this conference, 45-minute slots will be allocated. Submissions should be between 150-200 words and outline what will be included in the workshop.

Symposiaare a set of papers that are presented by speakers around a common topic, with a reviewer supporting the discussion and commenting on the papers. There will be more exchange between the speakers, as well as with the audience. For this conference, 90-minutes will be allocated. If you want to submit a symposia proposal, the panel will need to be pre-formed and should include three speakers and one reviewer. Each panel member will need to submit their own abstract (150-200 words) and will need to indicate that they are part of a symposia.

Posters allow the individual to present their work via a visual medium (although this should include text). These are on display and time will be allocated where you will stand by your poster and have discussions with colleagues about your work. Submissions should be between 150-200 words and outline what will be presented in the poster.