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International Conference
**School as a
Playful Space
2025**

Where: Free University of Bolzano/Bozen

Faculty of Education

Campus: Bressanone/Brixen

When: 9-10 October 2025

Scientific Committee:

Dr. Francesca Berti, Prof. Dr. Simone Seitz

Info: spielraum@unibz.it

The international conference "School as a Playful Space", in its second edition, aims to provide a framework for sharing theories, research findings and experiences in the field of Play-based Learning, with a specific focus on primary school.

Play-based Learning is considered here as an overarching framework for a range of experiences, spanning from free play to Teaching and Learning Games. The idea is to reflect together on play as a conceptual parenthesis for a future-oriented primary school education and all-day education.

We, therefore, consider both the dimensions of play and playfulness (Dewey) and aspects related to children's well-being, social relations, friendships, as well as play as a social practice. The focus is on the relation between learning/knowledge, body, emotions and materiality.

Following on from the first edition of the conference, we wish to explore the various dimensions of play in primary school and all-day education, with regard to the implementation of a child-oriented, inclusive education. In concrete terms, play will be reflected upon in relation to:

- playfulness
- participation
- embodied learning
- institutional structures (time and space)
- children's play cultures
- citizenship education
- teachers' professionalism, teachers' qualification

Any contribution inspired by these aspects and seeking to apply them to the question of the potential for the relationship between play and primary school is welcome.

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Scientific contributions may be proposed in English, Italian or German, in the forms of presentation (30 min.) or workshop (60 min.). Please note that contributions in English, especially concerning workshops, are warmly welcomed.

The Keynotes will be announced by Spring 2025. Keynotes contributions will be in English.

Abstracts in English, of approximately 500 words + bibliography + a short biography must be sent by **30 March 2025** to: **spielraum@unibz.it**

Selected contributions will be announced by 28 Mai 2024.

The conference fee is 120 €.

A conference volume in Open Access will follow.

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