

Theme 1: Child Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy and Neurodevelopmental Conditions

Autism Spectrum Disorder, Learning Disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) are common presentations in the child psychoanalytic psychotherapy clinic.

- What is the role of child psychoanalytic psychotherapy as a therapeutic option for children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental conditions?
- Autism as a condition. Autism as a response to current changes (autistic traits and/or defences).

Theme 2: Diversity, Family Configurations and Parent Work Consultations

Traditional family structures and asymmetrical intergenerational relationships seem to predominate.

- What are the children's experiences growing up in these different family configurations – families with both parents, single-parents, same-sex parents, transgender parents?
- What is unique and common about the psychoanalytic work with parents of these different family configurations?
- What is the relevance of child psychoanalytic psychotherapy work with babies, toddlers and young children (0-5) and their parents – fostering robust relationships and self-love?
- What are the complexities and implications of diverse family configurations for the Oedipal Complex?
- What are the complexities and implications for intergenerational relationships

Theme 3: Adversity, Poverty and the Work with the Child

- What is the impact of poverty in child development?
- Is child psychoanalytic psychotherapy possible when child and therapist are exposed to the same traumatic conditions (e.g., war, natural disasters)?
- What is the role of rage and violence in the psychic development of the child?
- What are the changes of the therapeutic setting and psychoanalytic tools to meet contemporary challenges?

- What do short term psychoanalytic psychotherapy and related models have to offer?
- Current developments in the work of child psychoanalytic psychotherapy with adopted children and looked-after children
- Current developments in the work of child psychoanalytic psychotherapy with displaced children
- Current developments in the work of child psychoanalytic psychotherapy with children with disabilities
- Current developments in the work of child psychoanalytic psychotherapy with complex trauma

Theme 4: Social Changes

- What is the impact of social changes on individual and collective psychic functioning?
- If groups driven by primitive group dynamics and action promoting narcissism and immediate gratification instead of meaning and group cohesion, what are the implications for the development of the child?
- How do children and young people access vulnerability and recognise boundaries in current social contexts that promote the opposite?
- How can child psychoanalytic psychotherapy understand psychological and social withdrawal?
- Are the internet and social media sources of support or escape for children and young people?