

PEDAGOGY, STRUCTURE AND POLITICS IN EDUCATION DESIGN

OLD SCHOOL NEW SCHOOL CONFERENCE 2019

Sydney, AUSTRALIA

16th October 2019



pasi_sahlberg

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Early childhood education

Childcare price rises leave Felicity working for almost no money

By [Pallavi Singhal](#)

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TODAY'S TOP STORIES

RUGBY WORLD CUP

'Super Typhoon' could wreak havoc on World Cup: Wallabies, Ireland in eye of the storm



BUSHFIRES

'Everthing's gone': Up to 20 properties destroyed in out-of-control bushfires in NSW



BREXIT CHAOS

'Stupid blame game': Donald Tusk berates Boris Johnson as hopes of a deal fade



SYRIA



Fee rises of 20 per cent or more at childcare centres in NSW have prompted calls for the government to "name and shame" some of Sydney's most expensive centres.

Childcare centres in some parts of the city, including the CBD, the north shore and northern beaches are charging up to \$200 a day.

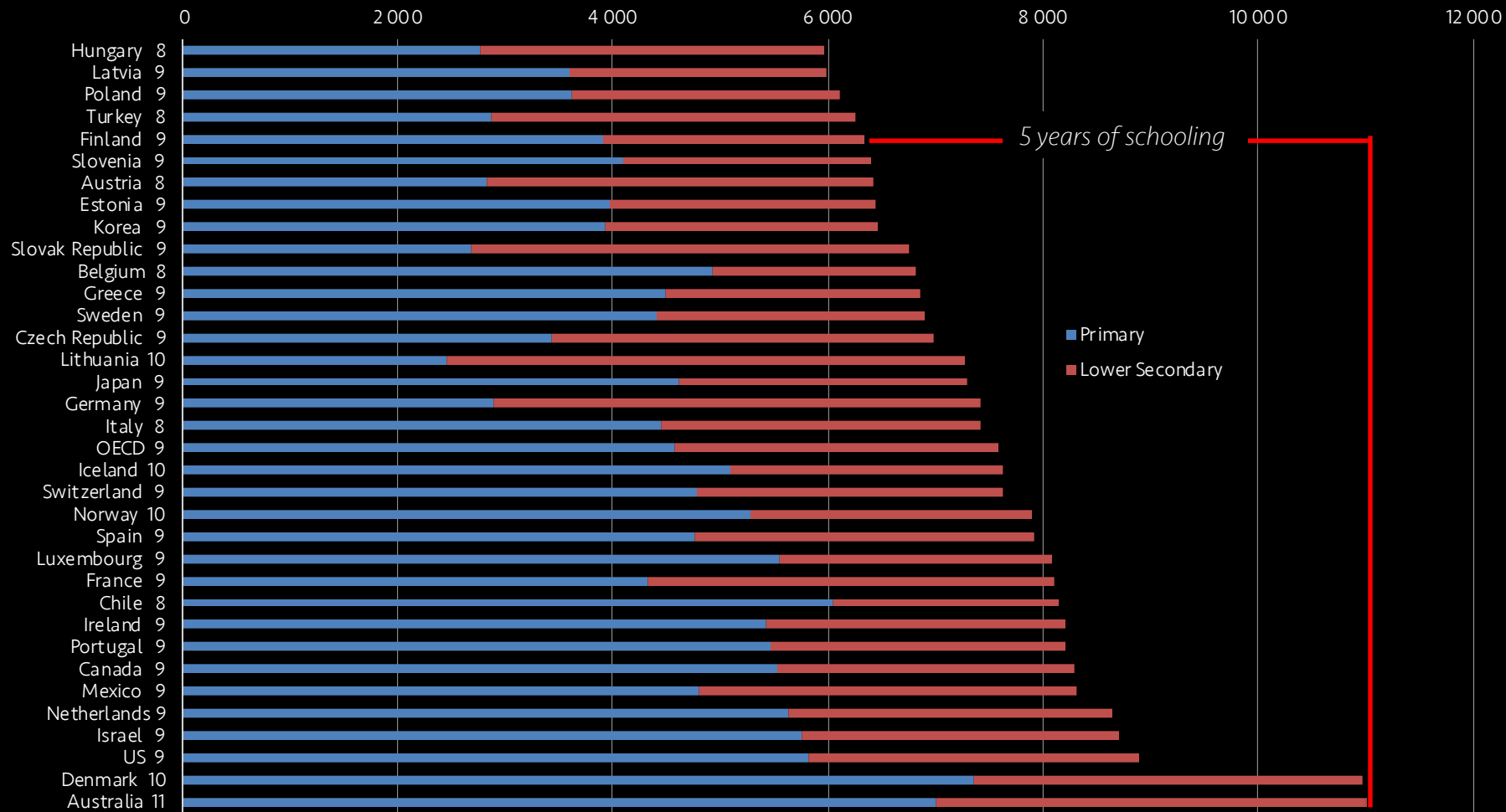


Sydney mother Felicity Frankish, who has just had her third child, says she is now having to choose between working for almost no money or staying home with her children and forgoing the educational benefits of preschool. JAMES ALCOCK

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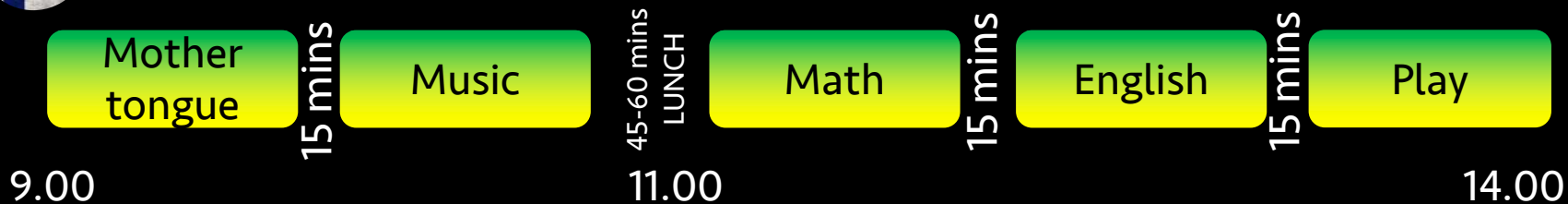
Length of formal schooling

Total number of compulsory instruction hours in primary and lower secondary schools





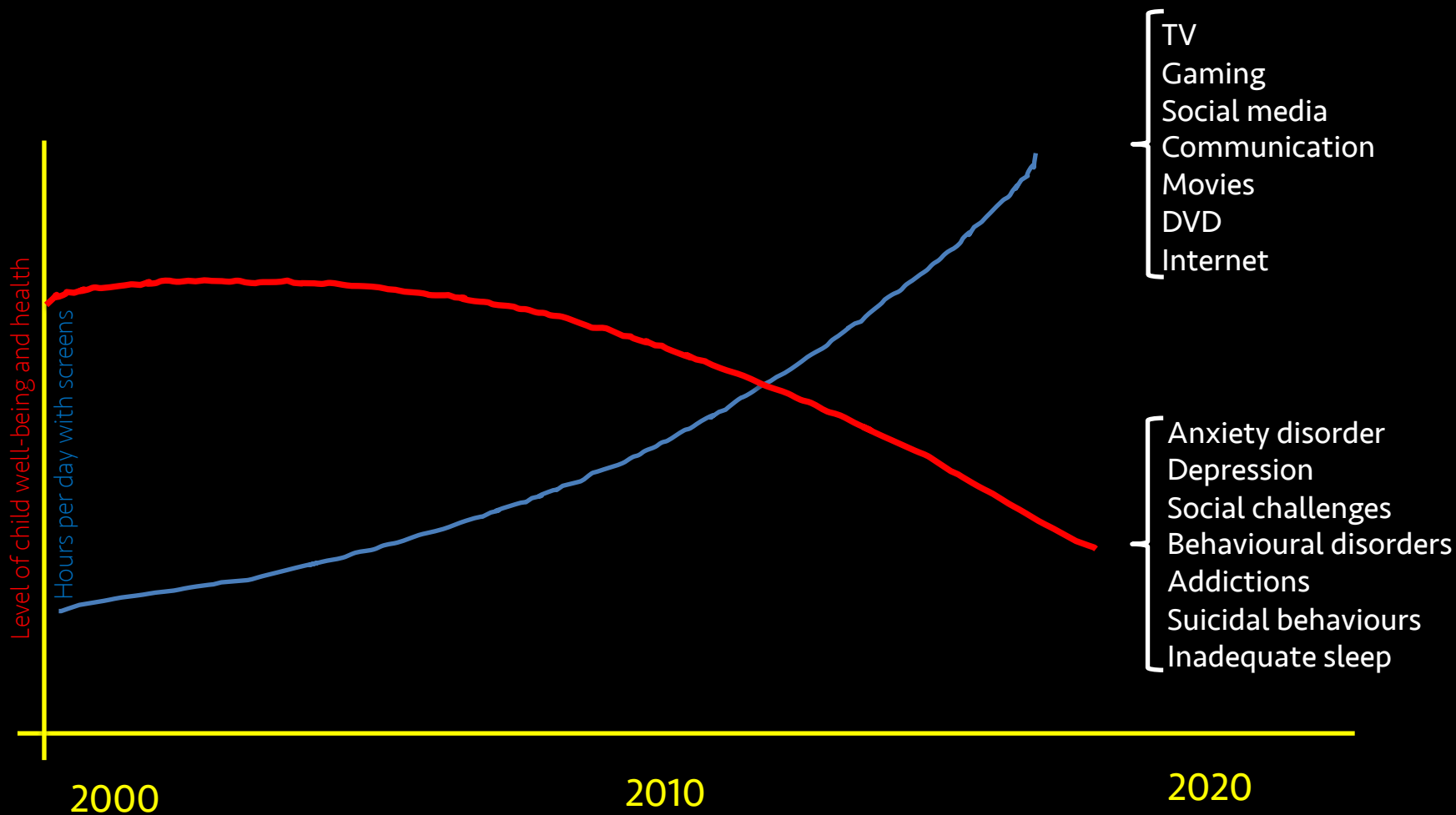
A typical Year 1 primary school day



3

Child wellbeing and health





HIGHLY WIRED

94 per cent of teenagers,
67 per cent of primary children **36**
per cent of preschoolers have their
own mobile screen-based device

43 per cent of young
people report using
their devices at bedtime

85 per cent of teenagers exceed
the recommended two hours a day
of screen time

Teenagers spend **44 hours**
a week on average on screens (for
educational, entertainment and
communication purposes)

A quarter of children
have sleep problems attributed to
screen use



Source: RCH National Child Health Poll

3 SIGNS ON THE HORIZON

“There is not the slightest indication that nuclear energy will ever be obtainable. It would mean that the atom would have to be shattered at will”.

- Albert Einstein, in 1932

“We don’t like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out”.

- Decca Recording Co, in 1962

“Touchscreen smartphones will never catch on”.

- Nokia, in 2003

SIGN #1:

WELLBEING

Growing Up Digital

(Alberta Teachers Association &
Harvard Medical School)

DISCONNECTING

Alberta teachers have observed dramatic changes in their student populations over the past three to five years.

EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES



of teachers say that the number of students with emotional challenges has increased.



of teachers say that the number of students with social challenges has increased.

85%

of teachers say that the number of students who need behaviour support has increased.



“ Is a student’s increasing online presence decreasing real-world satisfaction and positive peer-to-peer interaction? ”

— Elementary school teacher

MOOD DISORDERS

3 out of 4 teachers say that the number of students with cognitive challenges has increased.



STUDENT CHALLENGES

ANXIETY DISORDER **85%**

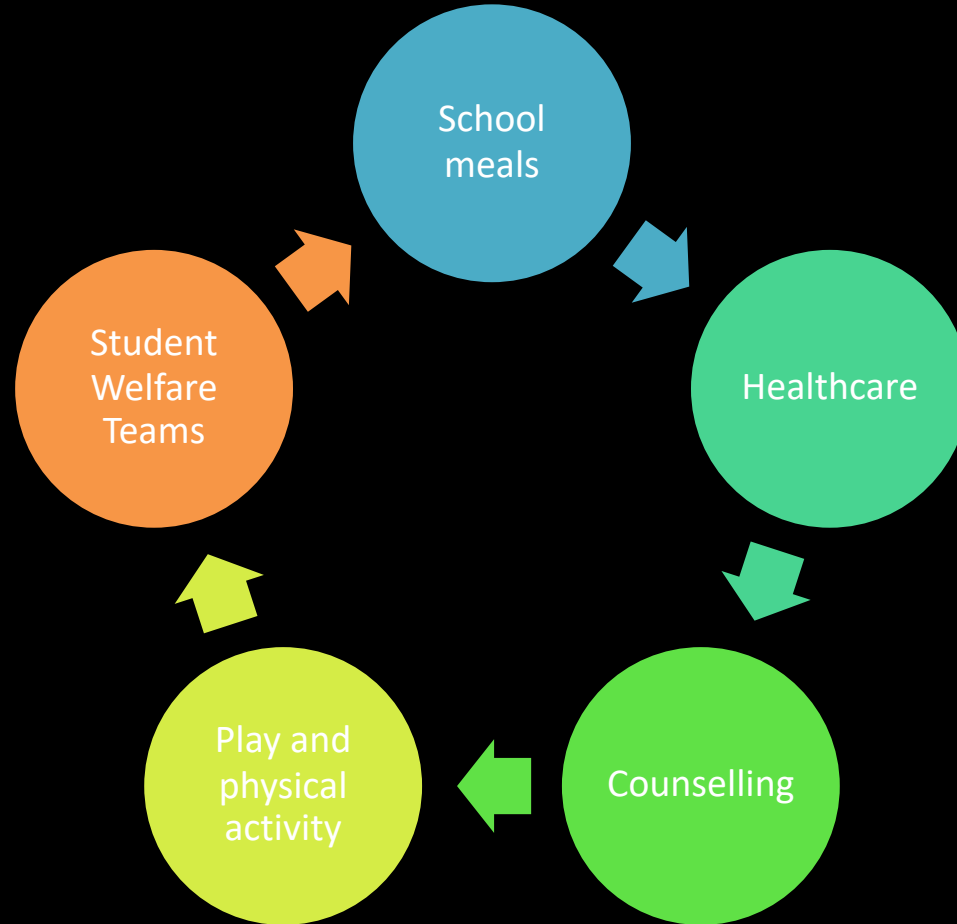
DEPRESSION **73%**

“More hours of screen time are associated with lower well-being in ages 2 to 17.”

“High users show less curiosity, self-control, and emotional stability.”

- Twenge and Campbell (2018)

Systemic approach to wellbeing in schools



SIGN #2:

PLAY

What Australian parents say?

A majority of parents believe that children are under pressure to grow up too quickly.

A majority of parents think children today spend less time playing compared to when they were at that age.

Doctor's Orders: The Children Must Play



Let the Children Play

HOW MORE PLAY WILL
SAVE OUR SCHOOLS AND
HELP CHILDREN THRIVE

PASI SAHLBERG & WILLIAM DOYLE

foreword by **SIR KEN ROBINSON**

“Play is integral to a child’s education. The importance of playtime for children cannot be overemphasized to parents, schools, and community organizations.”

Doctor's Orders: The Children Must Play



Let the Children Play

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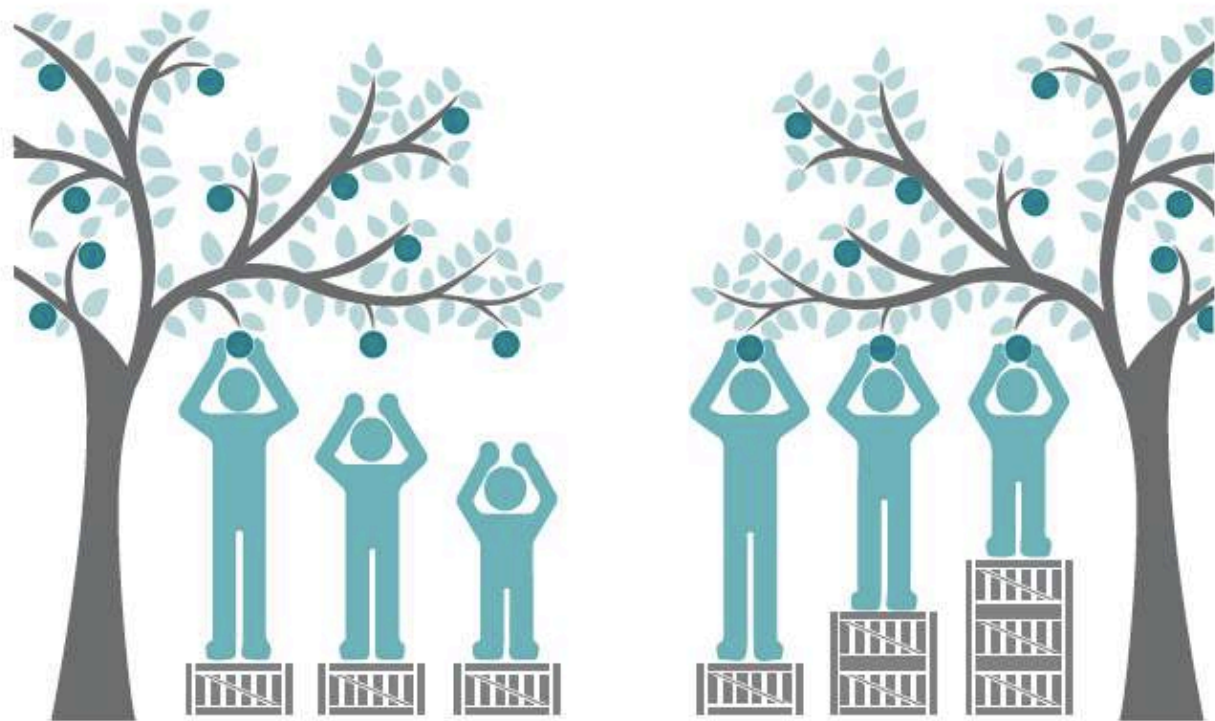
PASI SAHLBERG & WILLIAM DOYLE

foreword by **SIR KEN ROBINSON**

“Recess is fundamental to the school experience and develops lifelong skills of communication, negotiation, cooperation, sharing, and problem-solving.”

Sign #3:

EQUITY



Equality doesn't mean **Equity**

CONCLUSION

The future of education design should consider meeting different needs emerging through new priorities of *wellbeing*, *play* and *equity* in schools. Health, creativity and flexibility will describe the new learning environments that support learning for all.

Thank you!



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