

LETTER CIRCULAR - Institute for Education

Date: 30th January 2026

Ref: IfE 08/2026

From: Fiona Vassallo Medici – Senior Manager, Course Coordination & School Professional Development

To the attention of: Heads (College Network), Heads of Schools, Deputy Heads of State and Non-State, Assistant Directors, Education Officers, Heads of Department, Teachers, Guidance Teachers, Counsellors, Social Workers, Psychotherapists, Educational Psychologists and Sections

Subject: Seminar: Understanding and responding to childhood trauma in the classroom – **24th February 2026**

Application Link: [Registration Form](#)

Deadline: 16th February 2026

The Institute for Education is organising a seminar titled, **Understanding and responding to childhood trauma in the classroom** on the **24th February 2026, 08:30-14:30 at the IfE Campus, Pembroke**. This is open to all professionals working with children.

The key speakers will be **Ms Mary Rose Gatt**, a warranted clinical psychologist whose work is grounded in a psychodynamic framework and **Dr Steffi Borg Bartolo**, a counselling psychologist who has extensive experience working with children with trauma.

This workshop is designed to strengthen your understanding of trauma-informed practice and its application in school environments. Ms Gatt and Dr Borg Bartolo will explore how trauma affects children's learning, behaviour, and relationships, and provide practical tools to support every student's wellbeing and engagement.

By the end of the seminar, participants will be able to:

- recognise how trauma manifests in children.
- identify how trauma impacts attachment, self-regulation and relationships.
- apply trauma-informed principles in their daily interactions with students.
- respond effectively to distressed or dysregulated children without reinforcing shame or fear.
- strengthen emotional safety and resilience within the classroom environment.

Interested applicants are kindly asked to submit an online application by following the link: **[Registration Form](#)** by 16th February 2026. **Due to limited space, only the first 60 applicants will be accepted.**

For more information, kindly contact Course Coordination and School Professional Development on ife.pd@ilearn.edu.mt or 25983621 / 25983656.

Thank you.

Fiona Vassallo Medici
Senior Manager
Course Coordination & School Professional Development