

## Online Q&A with Bruce Adamson and Elly Chapple 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

#### **Bruce Adamson**

The Children and Young People's  
Commissioner

Bruce Adamson is a lawyer with over 20 years of experience in human rights. He has been the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland since 2017, responsible for promoting and safeguarding the rights of children and young people across Scotland.



Prior to his appointment as Commissioner, he was a member of Scotland's Children's Panel for 13 years, working directly with children in need of care in protection or in conflict with the law, listening to their experiences and making decisions about their safety and wellbeing. Bruce co-chaired the Rights working group of Scotland's Independent Care Review and is a former Chair of the Scottish Child Law Centre.

Over the last four years the Commissioner's office has worked closely with children and young people to secure legislative change in relation to the age of criminal responsibility, comprehensive protection for children from physical punishment, and the incorporation of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child into Scots law. They have undertaken strategic litigation on issues relating to child poverty, care experienced children, and restraint and seclusion. They have carried out investigations into restraint and seclusion in schools, and children whose liberty is at risk.

Bruce has acted as an international expert for the United Nations, Council of Europe, European Union, OSCE, and during the Covid-19 pandemic has advised the WHO on children's rights.

## Elly Chapple

Founder of #flipthenarrative and CanDoELLA

Elly graduated with honours in Human Resource Management and the Psychology of Human Communication. She has always been fascinated with human communication and behaviour, both verbal and non-verbal. She spent her early career working in businesses, managing and developing strategy for solutions focused approaches and building and maintaining relationships with clients.



Elly has a passion and interest in equality and inclusion for all, and her drive is to ensure that **everyone has a seat at the table**. In 2014 when her eldest daughter lost her vision through misunderstanding of her disability, Elly sold her business to come home and begin another journey. She recently did her [TEDx](#) at Norwich sharing their journey to found **#flipthenarrative** - their movement rooted in humanity.

Elly, Dr Wendy Thorley and Ruth Whiteside, co-authored the book '*Adverse Childhood Experiences ACEs: Why all the fuss?*' last year and Elly also trained with Dr Thorley in the Friends Resilience programme. She works with Studio III as a Specialist Consultant and is a huge supporter of children's human rights. Elly believes that positive relationships can heal any trauma and reshape lives. Her daughter Ella remains her greatest teacher, showing us what we need to do, to share this space to be.