

Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment

Learn to Meet the Needs of Students with Dyslexia and other LDs



Addressing the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (APST)

**Bendigo 17th March 2015
Presented by Karen Starkiss**

There are about 10% of students in Australia who are dyslexic and it is also highly probable that a dyslexic student will have at least two other disabilities such as autism, ADHD, dyspraxia, processing impairment etc. Many of these students have a mild level of difficulty and with simple changes they can be managed in the mainstream classroom. For those that experience problems at a more severe level, it is critical that the classroom and methodologies are designed to meet their needs.

By implementing these changes you will raise the potential of all students

Workshop outline: The course will be extremely practical and will provide ideas, activities and resources that you can use immediately in class. Will include hand-outs and resources and many suggestions will be applicable for all students with LD.

Testimonials

"Finally! A PD that includes all the important information I need to know AND practical games and activities that I can use in my classroom. Thank you."

JW – BERWICK PRIMARY

"Absolutely excellent! I have learnt more from this course than I have from previous PDs over the past 3 years. Good value for money. All the ideas presented are useful for all children regardless of age or ability level."

JD – GILSON COLLEGE

"I learnt a lot of strategies that could be used to assist those in the class who have yet to be formally diagnosed with dyslexia. The information on the course was extremely valuable and practical."

ZH – CAULFIELD GRAMMAR

Workshop Content Includes:

- How to recognise that a child is dyslexic
- How to gather evidence and informally assess individual students in the classroom
- Identifying individual learning styles and creating a multi-sensory environment
- To develop a range of strategies to support dyslexic children in class and individually
- Specific support for reading, writing and spelling
- Using ICT to support students and ideas for class work
- Meeting individual needs – how to put together individual programmes for students
- Lots of ideas and practical activities to support learners
- Good websites with free resources to support the teacher and the students

Session Details

Date: Tuesday 17th March 2015

Duration: 7 hours – 8.45 am registration. Course runs from 9.15am – 4.15pm

Location: Bendigo District RSL Sub Branch Inc. 73–75 Havilah Road, Bendigo 3550. Free parking

Cost: \$220 or \$200 if you book before 9th February. Price Includes: Presentation, hand-outs, numerous helpful websites, and lots of information about free resources, tea/coffee on arrival, morning tea and lunch. Disabled access.

Payment details will be supplied

Email: courses@dyslexiasupportservices.com.au

Phone: 0402 225 051

Dyslexia Support Services



Presenter: Karen Starkiss

“ An excellent source of PD for Teachers about Dyslexia. Karen is incredibly knowledgeable and is able to transfer that knowledge in an engaging and effective way. From the standpoint of an organiser of Professional Development and also as a participant I have no hesitation in recommending Karen Starkiss.”

Melinda Lichnovsky-Klock CRT COORDINATOR SHEPPARTON

Karen has over 30 years of experience as a teacher of primary and secondary students in the UK and therefore knows what to recommend and what is practical.

In England, she was principal of one of the top performing primary schools, despite the fact that she had the highest number of students with severe Learning Difficulties in the county. She has also worked in “failing” schools to quickly improve standards of teaching and learning.

In 2006 she moved to Australia where she has since established Dyslexia Assessments and Support Services. Karen has wide experience in assessing dyslexic children, teenagers and adults for learning difficulties and is currently providing in-service professional development to schools regarding creating and implementing dyslexia-friendly schools.

Karen has been interviewed by the Age and on ABC radio about her expertise in dyslexia and has advised a government task force in Canberra about supporting children with learning difficulties.

Since 2014 she has spent some time working with the education departments in the ACT and the Northern Territory, to put together a program to make all schools inclusive and accessible to all students. She has provided training for expert and lead teachers and professionals in the ACT to enable them to implement the program in individual schools.

In addition to running her own support service for children and adults with SpLD Karen is also Director of Learning and Development for Speld Victoria.

Professional Memberships and Focus Groups

Victorian Institute of Teachers
British Dyslexia Association
Learning Difficulties and Dyslexia Stakeholder Reference

Conference Presentations 2014

The BIG GIG Learning Difficulties conference Victoria
NDCO Inclusive Learning conference (Monash Uni)
Re-thinking Dyslexia Conference Melbourne

Professional Development Presentations 2014:

SCHOOLS IN-SERVICE includes: The Good Shepherd Lutheran School; Fleetwood Primary; Ballam Park Primary; Taylor’s Lakes School; St Joseph’s school Cobram; Lakeside Lutheran P-12; Solway Primary School; Doncaster Primary School; Montmorency Secondary College; Mount Eliza Primary School; Shepparton ACE College; Catholic College Wodonga; Rangebank Primary; St Bernard’s School Wangaratta; Berwick Primary school

ACT Department of Education: Taskforce on Students with Learning Difficulties seven days: Train the Trainer Program- training school Principals, psychologists, advisors, teachers, support assistants and parents: Intervention Strategies to support students with learning difficulties

Dyslexiclever Parents’ and Teachers’ workshop Macedon Ranges Woodend regional workshop Vic

Ballarat Teachers and Support Assistant Workshop Vic

Shepparton Teachers and Support Assistant Workshop Vic

ACT – Presentation to School Principals and advising/planning methods to ensure training is embedded

Parents’ workshop Canberra: How to support your child with learning difficulties at home and school

NDCO Teachers and tutors of students 14 year+ in the following areas: Traralgon; Bairnsdale; Dandenong and Peninsula – Creating a Dyslexia-Friendly Learning Environment.

Casual Relief Teachers Workshop Ballarat

South West Parent Support Group: for parents and teachers of upper primary and secondary children

Mount Eliza Primary presentation to parents

Screening and Assessment for early Intervention – Kerrimuir Primary

Weetangara Primary Teachers and parents – Canberra

Northern Territory Department of Education – Alice Springs and Darwin: 7 days: workshops for Principals, psychologists, advisors, teachers, support assistants, Special Needs Association and parents: Intervention Strategies to support students with learning difficulties

NDCO Teachers and tutors of students 14 year+ Dandenong – Creating a Dyslexia-Friendly Learning Environment.

Ronald McDonald House Teachers and Tutors

Lecturer/Presenter for:

Meeting the Needs of Students with Dyslexia and other LDs – Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment

Screening and Assessment for Early Intervention in School

Using Games to Develop Language and Vocabulary in the Classroom

Creating a Dyslexia friendly and inclusive classroom- on a Budget

Success Stories for Social Situations for Children with Autism

Teaching Reading to Struggling Upper Primary and Secondary School Students

How to Support your child with learning difficulties at home and school

Classroom and individual literacy support for students with learning difficulties

How to Teach Your Child to Read