

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

Addressing the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (APST) 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. Staff must feel confident in their ability to identify students with specific learning difficulties in literacy, know which interventions and accommodations to use to target individual needs and enable students to reach their potential, to improve feelings of self-worth and create a positive learning environment. 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 & many suggestions will be applicable for all students with LD

Workshop Content Includes:

- ❖ How to recognise that a student 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 enable all students to reach their potential
- ❖ Additional structures to support the school in becoming inclusive: guidelines for staff, and Provision Maps for targeted support
- ❖ To develop a range of strategies to support students in class and individually
- ❖ Specific support for reading, writing and spelling
- ❖ Using Technology to support students and ideas for class work
- ❖ Meeting individual needs - how to put together programmes for small groups or individual students
- ❖ Lots of ideas and practical activities to support learners
- ❖ Numerous websites with free resources to support the teacher and the students



COSTS

\$1100 for a full day 9.00 am – 4.00 pm. It could also be delivered over 2 or 3 shorter sessions (e.g. twilight) if you are in Melbourne/ suburbs.

\$590 for 3.5 hour twilight/ half day (doesn't include individual programs)

Prices are for up to 50 members of staff within the Melbourne area.

Email: karen@dyslexiasupportservices.com.au

Phone: 0402225051

I will travel to anywhere in Victoria

TESTIMONIES

"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**

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



Karen Starkiss: brings 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 the 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 spent some time working with the Education team in the ACT and Northern Territories, to put together a program to make all schools inclusive and accessible to all students, provided training for Expert and Lead teachers and professional 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 Group DEECD Vic
VCAA Special Provision Focus Group

RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

The BIG GIG Learning Difficulties conference Victoria
NDCO Inclusive Learning conference (Monash Uni)
Re-thinking Dyslexia Conference Melbourne
Taskforce on Students with Learning Difficulties ACT
Learning Difficulties Conference Canberra

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 & 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 Territories 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