For Classroom Assistants & Integration Aides

Supporting the needs of Students with Learning Difficulties in Class, in Small Groups and also individually-

Offered as a 1 Day Workshop or as a New Comprehensive 2 day workshop for Individual schools or Networks.



Workshop overview:

This workshop is a response to the many class assistants or tutors telling me they would like to be better skilled and understand how children with LD learn to read and write. This is a two day comprehensive and practical workshop full of ideas, activities and resources to take away and use immediately in class and for supporting and teaching individuals and groups of students.

Workshop Content:

- Learn why some children learn differently
- Be aware of the signs and symptoms of specific learning difficulties in individuals
- Understanding the main weaknesses they share
- Develop a range of strategies to support students with specific learning difficulties in class in terms of:
- Organisation, reading, writing and spelling
- Know the basic skills required for reading and how a child learns to read
- Learn how to introduce and reinforce Phonemes,
 Phonics and High frequency Words
- Be informed about technologies to support students

Testimony

"Brilliant course: I came away feeling much more capable of helping kids who are struggling and identifying what they need help with."

In Service

K.M. - Southern region

"Interesting, eye opening, informative and very practical; we can really put into practice what we have learned."

S.O. - Southern Region

- Cognitive weaknesses what these are, how to identify them and games and activities to remediate
- Be provided with free resources to download and games and activities to play
- Feel more confident about working with small group and individual students in terms of teaching reading and spelling

This PD can be delivered as 2 full days or condensed to one day and to a Network of schools if preferred.

Workshops can be tailored to individual school needs and can be offered all over Victoria for up to 50 members of staff.



Dyslexia Support Services and Educational Resources

About the presenter



Karen Starkiss

Karen 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 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 departments in the ACT and the Northern Territory to put together a program to make all schools inclusive and accessible to all students; provided training for Expert and Lead teachers and professionals in the ACT to enable them to implement the program in individual schools

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
- \bullet Taskforce on Students with Learning Difficulties ΔCT
- 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 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 years+ 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: seven days: workshops for Principals, psychologists, advisors, teachers, support assistants, Special Needs Association and parents: Intervention Strategies to support students with learning difficulties

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

Teaching Reading to Struggling Upper Primary and Secondary School Students

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