

Implementing a whole school approach to meeting students' varying needs.

Increase your confidence in identifying students at risk, targeting support and intervening effectively to allow all learners to achieve

In
Service 2



Testimony

"I just want to say a BIG THANKYOU to Karen for spending the day with me and showing me so many more resources to help our students. I had previously gained a lot from a one day PD that I had attended with Karen but what a benefit I have had working one on one with her! I also hope that the staff at my school all realise the importance of the information that Karen has given us and take it all on board, after all, we are all in it for the students! Oh... So much to do but how exciting!!!!"

A.I. - Kerrimuir Primary School

Response to Intervention is designed to improve student learning by providing high-quality instruction, intervening early with students at risk for academic difficulty.

A central component of all RTI models is early screening of all students to identify those at risk for academic difficulties.

Screening students to identify those who, despite a strong general education program are likely to fail, will ensure that they receive targeted evidence-based interventions. For some students more intensive informal assessments will highlight specific weaknesses that require specific support in class and in terms of an individual program.

Workshop content:

This will be determined by discussions with individual schools and their specific requirements. It could include:

- Review of current school procedures
- A means to audit school strengths and Areas to develop in terms of RTI
- Demonstrate how early Identification of the risk of reading difficulties is possible
- Support and advice for structuring screening and assessment throughout the school

- Intervention ideas for groups and Individuals
- Tests for more intensive assessment of individual needs including reading, spelling, language, phonological and cognitive skills
- Practical activities to support learners and advice about resources and games
- Links to helpful, RTI screening and assessment resources

This PD can be delivered as a full day or condensed to a half day.

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
- 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 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 Autism

Teaching Reading to Struggling Upper Primary and Secondary School Students

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