Early Childhood Leaders’ Network (2013)

A unique professional learning opportunity for ECE leaders!

The University of Auckland Centre for Educational Leadership (UACEL) and EC Professional Support have partnered again to present a professional learning network for leaders. This programme entails face-to-face and online learning forums - providing a platform to establish a professional learning community for leaders in early childhood.

The programme commences with a full day session focused on learning and consolidating the theory and skills of Open-to-Learning Conversations (OLCs). This is followed by four half day professional learning sessions focused on consolidating skills in OLCs, building fundamental leadership skills, and supporting you with approaches and practices for leading professional learning in your setting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session One</th>
<th>Session Two</th>
<th>Session Three</th>
<th>Session Four</th>
<th>Session Five</th>
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<td>9.30am – 3.30pm</td>
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<td>20th March</td>
<td>15th May</td>
<td>19th June</td>
<td>14th August</td>
<td>25th September</td>
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<td>Full day practical session on Open-to-Learning Conversations (OLCs) in early childhood settings</td>
<td>Open-to-Learning Conversations - Building upon consolidating learning and practice</td>
<td>An introduction to the Best Evidence Synthesis on Professional Learning and Development</td>
<td>Revisiting OLCs - outcomes for practice</td>
<td>Consolidating leadership practice</td>
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<td>Building relationships</td>
<td>Approaching and responding to leadership issues in ECE</td>
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<td>Establishing a professional learning community in your setting - key approaches and practices</td>
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The sessions will provide an opportunity for participants to share relevant experience related to the use of Open-to-Learning Conversations and explore issues related to developing a learning community. This network is designed to cater for positional leaders in early childhood settings and will enable participants to gain leadership knowledge and to practise the associated skills. The latter sessions will respond to the specific identified needs of the group.

Venue: Sessions will take place at the University of Auckland Faculty of Education, Epsom Campus. Room to be confirmed.

Facilitators

Linda Bendikson

Linda Bendikson is the Director for The University of Auckland Centre for Educational Leadership. Linda brings her expertise in the education sector as a teacher, principal, and most recently, as Regional Manager (Central North) for the Ministry of Education. A life-long educationalist, Linda completed her PhD studies at The University of Auckland in 2011. Her PhD research focuses on educational management and leadership. She has developed a method for assessing the performance of secondary schools, including those which are improving over a four-year period. She has also linked school performance to aspects of instructional leadership and school culture. Aspects of Linda’s research have been published in the Journal of Educational Administration and she has recently co-authored a chapter in Leadership and Learning (Editors: Jan Robertson and Helen Timperley) along with Viviane Robinson and John Hattie – her PhD supervisors.

Barbara Watson

Barbara Watson has been a facilitator and mentor in the EC Professional Support team at The University of Auckland since 2008. She also lectures on a number of the University’s early childhood courses. She has a passion for supporting teachers to make effective links between theory and practice therefore improving learning outcomes for children. Barbara has particular interests in leadership, mentoring and assessment. Barbara is a qualified early childhood and primary teacher and has owned and managed early childhood centres. She graduated with her Masters of Educational Administration (Hons) from Massey University in 2008 focusing on leadership and adult education. Barbara is currently studying toward a PhD focused on mentoring in education and care services.

Testimonials from 2012

“I have really enjoyed and benefited from this programme. The ongoing nature of the programme, whereby each session has built on the previous, is really effective in maintaining my commitment to practising the skills learnt.”

“I thoroughly enjoyed the course and gained so much knowledge from it. I will recommend this course to other professional leaders. It was very helpful and very valuable as a teacher and leader.”

Numbers limited – Leaders, confirm the direction for your professional learning in 2013 NOW

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