

Learning Better Together

Invitation to attend a seminar on inclusive practice

Success for All – Every School, Every Child is the government's vision that sets out the expectation that all schools will be fully inclusive by 2014. The Education Review Office (ERO) will now be measuring & reporting on schools' performance in achieving a safe & fully inclusive school. **You are influential in setting the culture of your school so please mark this date in your diary now!**

Supported by the Ministry of Education, this seminar is for school leaders & trustees, teachers, parents & others interested in developing schools that include, value & teach all students well.

What is the seminar about?

It takes a 'student perspective' to highlight some of the issues students have raised about their learning & social experiences at school. The seminar is based on the understanding that inclusive education is about ensuring **all** students develop a positive identity & sense of belonging, participate fully & are taught well.

The seminar aims to develop participants' thinking about how schools can respond to diversity through:

- Examples from research with students, parents, teachers & teacher aides.
- Small group work using scenarios about students' learning & social experiences.
- Small group work focused on issues relevant to participants' own schools.
- Work undertaken by student teachers on inclusive practice.

The content reflects the views of the presenters & not necessarily those of the Ministry of Education.

Participants will leave the seminar with;

- An understanding about what inclusive education is & what it looks like in practice.
- Ideas for developing inclusive practice in their own school, including one particular idea to be implemented following the seminar.
- A copy of the DVD *Learning Better Together* & a resource folder that includes useful articles & information about inclusive education.



Wednesday 27th November 2013

9.30am - 3.30pm

**Te Manawa | Museum of Art,
Science & History
326 Main St, Palmerston North**

The Presenters

Dr Jude MacArthur

Jude is a senior lecturer at Massey University & is part of the team working on the Postgraduate Diploma for Specialist Teaching. A former primary teacher, she has also worked as a lecturer in Education at the University of Otago, teaching in the area of inclusive education. In 2000 she moved to the Donald Beasley Institute in Dunedin where she led national research projects on education & disability, including projects for the Ministry of Education. Jude's research interests have evolved out of her work with children, young people & adults with disabilities, & include the school experiences of students with disabilities; students' rights, friendships & social relationships; and the development of schools as inclusive communities.



Dr Gill Rutherford

Gill is a senior lecturer in Education & Disability Studies at the University of Otago. She has had the privilege of knowing & working with disabled children & adults over the last thirty years. A former high school teacher, her work as a tertiary educator since 1995 has focused on inclusive education within teacher & teacher aide education programmes. In 2008, she completed her PhD, *Different ways of knowing? Understanding disabled students' and teacher aides' school experiences within a context of relational social justice.*



Programme

9.30 -10.30am **Inclusive education - what are we talking about?**

This session looks at the current research exploring students' experiences, and at relevant guidance and legislation, to explore what inclusive education is and where it has come from. It establishes the foundations of inclusion in human rights, social justice and school values.

10.30-10.45am **MORNING TEA** (*provided*)

10.45-12.00pm **Inclusive Education—Values and practice**

In this session we introduce the idea that schools and classes can be located along a continuum from inclusion to exclusion. Through the voices of students in our research, we will be exploring the values and assumptions that underpin their experiences of inclusion and exclusion at school. In recognition of the crucial role that values play throughout the process of inclusive education, participants will explore their own school's values and reflect on their capacity to support inclusion.

Please bring a copy of your school's values for this session

12.00-12.45pm **LUNCH** (*provided*)

12.45-2.00pm **Putting inclusive values into practice in schools**

Consistent with the New Zealand Curriculum's focus on students' learning and social experiences, participants will explore various ways in which schools can support the full participation and positive identity of all students within the New Zealand Curriculum's focus on students' learning and social experiences.

2.00-2.15pm **AFTERNOON BREAK**

2.30-3.15pm **Moving on and along the continuum – developing Inclusive practice in my own school**

This session includes an opportunity for participants to consider the ways in which their own schools put school values into practice. Participants will work in small groups to reflect on the material covered in the seminar and to develop one idea that will move their school along the continuum, and in the direction of inclusion.

Please bring an issue you'd like to consider in this session

3.15-3.30pm **WRAP UP**

RSVP to Danette Wilson by 18 Nov 2013

at ihc.events@ihc.org.nz or 0800 442 442

With your name, organisation, role, contact details, dietary or any other requirements.

This is a free seminar
made possible with support from the

 **IHC FOUNDATION**