

Contributors

Christine Bailey

Christine is currently the Head Teacher at Ferndale Kindergarten in Mt Albert, Auckland. She has been a kaiako in the Early Childhood Sector for over 30 years and has a particular interest in finding ways to implement how current research and understandings might be integrated into learning for mokopuna, whānau and kaiako to enable identities to prosper. Christine believes that professional learning and the promotion of new ideas are key to building strong learning communities. You can contact Christine at Christine.Bailey@aka.org.nz

Raewyn Higginson

Raewyn has been working in education for over 30 years. She started as a primary school teacher, then moved into special needs in 1999 with the advent of 'Tomorrow's Schools. She is now working in Early Childhood as a Paper Leader and lecturer for Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood New Zealand (ECNZ). As a member of the ECNZ Flagship 4 research team, she investigated leadership in early childhood settings. You can contact Raewyn at raewyn.higginson@ecnz.ac.nz

Suzanne Manning

Suzanne Manning completed a Ph.D through the University of Auckland that examined the impact of early childhood policy from the late 1980s on Playcentres, a parent cooperative service unique to Aotearoa New Zealand. Her research interests combine the disciplines of history, policy and education, from a social justice perspective. Suzanne can be contacted at suzannemanning1211@gmail.com

Claire McLachlan

Claire is the Dean of the School of Education at Federation University Australia. She was formerly a Professor of Education at Massey University and University of Waikato. Claire has been an Editor of *Early Education* since 2006. She is widely published in the areas of early childhood curriculum, pedagogy, assessment and evaluation. Claire can be contacted at claire.mclachlan@waikato.ac.nz

Thecla Kudakwashe Moffat

Thecla Moffat is an educator who has been in the teaching field for over nearly three decades. She taught both overseas and in New Zealand. She started as a new entrants and year 1 teacher for 10 years before transitioning to early childhood where she was an educator, a team leader and a mentor for student teachers. She joined the tertiary sector in educating New Zealand's teachers between January 2013 and October 2015 working as a lecturer at New Zealand Tertiary College. In October 2015 she joined the New Zealand Ministry of Education as an Early Intervention Specialist. In August 2019 Thecla joined Autism New Zealand to start their new early intervention services. She has a huge interest in inclusive education for children with diverse needs and promoting emotional and social competencies in the early years. She has done research in inclusive early childhood education and promoting children's social competencies. Thecla can be contacted at Thecla.Moffat@autismnz.org.nz

Vijaya Tatineni

Vijaya is a Lecturer in Early Childhood Education in the School of Education, Federation University Australia on the Mt Helen Campus in Ballarat. Vijaya worked in India as an early childhood teacher, manager and owner of a preschool. Vijaya migrated to New Zealand, retrained at Massey University, then worked as a teacher and head teacher in kindergartens in Wellington, as well as tertiary teaching with the Open Polytechnic. She has been with Federation University since 2013. She has recently completed her Ph.D at Monash University on the topic of engaging Indian children in early childhood settings in Melbourne. Vijaya can be contacted at v.tatineni@federation.edu.au

Dan Wan

Dan Wan is a Ph.D student from Nanjing Normal University. Her Ph.D is on the professional development of early childhood teachers in China. In 2019, she was a Visiting Scholar in the School of Education, Federation University Australia, working with Professor Claire McLachlan. Dan can be contacted at wandan0508@163.com

Marjolein Whyte

Marjolein Whyte is a Lecturer at New Zealand Tertiary College. After a career in Social Work in The Netherlands, she retrained as a primary school teacher and an early childhood teacher in New Zealand through Auckland College of Education (now University of Auckland). She has worked in the early childhood field for over ten years as a teacher and head-teacher and enjoyed every minute of it! She also embarked on further study and completed her postgraduate diploma and master's

degree in Education. Marjolein's masters research has been a continuation of her study on parent/whānau involvement in assessment for learning in early childhood education and involved a multiple case study with 15 parent participants in five ECE centres. She treasures the opportunity to now share her knowledge and passion for early childhood teaching with adult students and at the same time enhancing her own knowledge and skills. Marjolein can be contacted at marjoleinwhyte@gmail.com