Contributors

Dr Karyn Aspden is a Senior Lecturer in Early Years Education at the Institute of Education, Massey University. Her teaching and research interests include practicum, professional practice, effective teaching practice, early intervention and infant and toddler pedagogy. Her passion for advocating for Pasifika Picturebooks in education. As a Summer Research Scholarship recipient in 2020/2021 she was able to work with co-authors to further understand the need for representation in literature.

Sue Cherrington is an Associate Professor in the School of Education, Victoria University of Wellington. Her research is particularly focused on professional learning and development, early childhood teachers’ professional and pedagogical practices, and diversity in ECE contexts. https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9547-3534

Linda Clarke Ph.D., works part time as a senior tutor in Massey University’s Institute of Education. Her research interests include teachers’ professional development and teaching practices that support the unique needs of toddlers. Linda’s Ph.D. involved an investigation of practice-based coaching to foster social-emotional teaching practices for toddlers.

Nicola Daly is a sociolinguist and Associate Professor in the Division of Education at University of Waikato, where she teaches children’s literature. Her research focus is multilingual picturebooks and their role in perpetuating and challenging language attitudes. She was a Fulbright New Zealand Scholar at the University of Arizona, USA in 2019/2020.

Angela Fuimaono is currently studying towards a Master of Teaching and Learning at Waikato University. She is a mother of multicultural Pasifika children and has a passion for advocating for Pasifika Picturebooks in education. As a Summer Research Scholarship recipient in 2020/2021 she was able to work with co-authors to further understand the need for representation in literature.

Vicki Gifkins is an early years tutor, research coordinator, and post-graduate student at Massey University. She has experience teaching in a range of New Zealand early childhood services including childcare, kindergarten, home-based and Playcentre settings. Vicki is a member of the Early Years Research Lab at Massey University and recent work includes coordinating a Teaching, Learning, Research Initiative (TLRI) study and supporting the development work of Kōwhiti Whakapae. Vicki’s research interests include intentional teaching with a social justice and gender equity lens.

Lynda Hunt is recently retired from a lengthy career as a kindergarten teacher in Aotearoa New Zealand, including multiple roles focused on research and building teacher-researcher partnerships.

Janette Kelly-Ware is a Senior Lecturer at Te Kura Toi Tangata Faculty of Education at The University of Waikato. She is a Co-Director of the Waikato Picturebook Research Unit (WaiPRU) and is passionate about the power of picturebooks especially to engage diverse learners.

Linton Kindergarten a semi-rural kindergarten licensed for 30 children aged over two years and operates school hours. They are located
within the housing area of the Linton Military Camp. The teaching team at the time of the project included Sherrie Gilberd (Head Teacher), Jessie King, and Sarah Goacher. 

Karen Mackay is currently a professional clinician for Early Years Education at the Institute of Education, Massey University. Prior to this, she held a range of teaching and leadership roles across a wide range of early childhood services. Her interests include assessment and planning, literacy, mathematics and social and emotional competence.

Makino Kindergarten is located in central Fielding. They operate school hours and are licensed for 40 children aged from two years. The teaching team at the time of the project included Alison Robinson (Head Teacher), Jenny Goodall, Lynda England, Amira Humme, and Sandra Shaw

Professor Claire McLachlan is Dean of the School of Education at Federation University Australia, her research focuses on literacy, physical activity, curriculum, pedagogy, assessment and evaluation.

Tessa Putze is a passionate qualified early childhood teacher who has recently returned to study a Masters in Education at Massey University Institute of Education, with a primary focus on Early Years Education. She is based in Owhiro Bay, Wellington, and her passions are social and emotional learning and teaching, inclusive education, learning about different languages and cultures, and working in partnership with whānau and tamariki.

Barbara Scanlan is the Student Services Manager at New Zealand Tertiary College and has many years experience in being an early childhood kaiako and lecturer for Education. Her interests lie in children's wellbeing, the arts and a holistic curriculum that reflects and encompasses all members of the learning communities.

Galina Stebletsova is a Lecturer at Unitec, with extensive experience in both ECE and academic teaching. She has keen interest in children's wellbeing and how curriculum supports it, aspects of play, child’s mental health, and the role holistic curriculum plays in supporting children and families today.

Tara McLaughlin is an Associate Professor in early years education and the founder and director of the Early Years Research Lab at Massey University. As a teacher, teacher educator, and researcher in early years, Tara is committed to supporting learning environments that promote diverse and equitable opportunities for all tamariki and whānau. She maintains an active research programme related to inclusive early childhood education and early intervention with a focus on the supports for kaiako and whānau.