

SUSTAINING AND EMBEDDING THE APPROACH

The Walker Learning Approach is an evidenced based pedagogy; its success is underpinned by strong leadership, professional development of the teaching team and an understanding and commitment from the whole school community. The following recommendations are for implementation of WLA (Pre-school to 2) and WLA (years 3 to 8) and are based on the successful implementation of the approach in 100's of schools across the country.

Session	Comment
6 months prior to implementation in the classroom	
WLA introductory symposium Leadership and teaching team	Leadership understanding and commitment is integral to the success of the approach.
2-3 mentoring sessions	WLA (K-2): room set up and planning and documentation (held afterschool). WLA (3-6): room set up, planning and documentations, communication boards and ERP's
18 – 24 months of implementation	
Mentoring sessions 3 session per term per teaching team	This will be a combination of afterschool and during class time. During class time this will be both demonstration model teaching by an associate and observation of teaching teams.
WLA (K-grade 2) 2-day study tours	It is recommended that over the course of next 12 to 18 months all staff on the teaching team (and leadership) attend a 2- day study tour that is either conducted in Melbourne or their interstate or regional area.
WLA (grades 3-6) 1-day study tours	It is recommended that over the course of next 12 to 18 months all staff on the teaching team (and leadership) attend a 1-day study tour that is either conducted in Melbourne or their interstate or regional area.
WLA Half Day Extension Sessions	These sessions are appropriate for teachers who have begun implementing the approach, have attended an introductory session and have had several sessions of mentoring. Extension sessions are offered for WLA (K-2) and WLA (3-6).
WLA Web based support	Schools that are working with our organization have the opportunity to access web based support for their teaching team; this includes the WLA-Daily Diary and videos.

School Community Information	
Whole School Overview	Generally held in staff meeting times – Kathy or Shona to present to the whole school for approximately 1 hr 20 min.
Parent Information Session	In this session parent are given the opportunity to learn about education in the 21 st C and how the philosophy and the teaching and learning of the WLA fulfill these expectations. Sessions are conducted by Shona or Kathy; are about 1.5 hrs either in the afternoon before school pick up or in the evening from approx 7pm.
Interstate, Regional, Rural and Remote School communities	
WLA Half Day / Whole Day Mentoring	<p>These sessions are used when the travel time and cost does not provide a viable option to conduct 2 hour mentoring sessions 3 times per term. Schools in the same regions are encouraged to collaborate to sequence shared visits so that costs are shared pro rata.</p> <p>On these visits schools usually hold mentoring, whole school overviews and parent sessions</p>
Mentoring Distance Support Model	Skype, teleconference, email sessions are provided as support to supplement mentoring sessions
Funding Opportunities and Applications	
Grant Applications	<p>Shona and Kathy have extensive experience and success in writing proposals, grant applications and tenders. Over the past two years we have worked with many schools to secure funding to support implementation of the WLA from government and non government agencies.</p> <p>Our contributions are voluntary and range from writing substantial portions of the application to advice on context and content.</p> <p>The earlier schools request our assistance the more we can offer in terms time towards our contribution.</p>
Teacher Professional Leave (TPL)	There are many opportunities for teachers to secure funding for their own professional development. We have worked with many teachers who been successful in the applications for TPL. Our contributions range from planning the PD, reading lists and the opportunity to shadow Kathy And more!