



Professional Development 2012

Primary Educators Pre-School to Year 9



The Walker Learning Approach offers developmentally and culturally appropriate personalised learning for children pre-school to year 9. The WLA is an evidence based pedagogy with 15 years of research validating its success at engaging children in real, relevant and meaningful learning.

We are delighted to be offering professional development in 2012 for educators from pre-school to year 9. We offer a great mix of the theoretical and practical.

Bookings usually fill quickly, so choose your sessions and follow the prompts on our websites to book easily online!

Venue for all professional development in Melbourne will be at the Australian Institute of Management, 181 Fitzroy St, St Kilda, VIC 3182 (03) 9534 8181.

NEW in 2012 – a wider range of PD options

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We offer a wide range of supports at local schools, within communities across Australia as well as at our PD venue in Melbourne. We also conduct professional development, mentoring, conferences and symposiums throughout Australia. In 2012 we offer new initiatives that widen choices and options for staff. Contact us for a customised PD/conference/study tour/symposium for your school community.

Leadership Seminar

- Sustainability of the WLA requires leadership. This session is specifically designed for principals and leadership teams, WLA core elements and key implementation recommendations are presented (including working with parents and staff). Ideas on implementing the approach successfully within a 2-3 year strategic plan.

Professional Development Symposia

- Symposiums of either half or full days are conducted for groups of schools and teachers in local communities across Australia. We offer a variety of symposiums including introductory and PD support sessions. We tailor sessions to suit school communities.

PD Support Sessions (for leaders & teachers implementing WLA)

- These sessions provide in-depth and practical workshops of specific issues related to the WLA across grades P-grade 6. Kathy Walker and Shona Bass (the designers of the WLA) conduct these sessions. Refer to this brochure for Melbourne based sessions and contact the office for interstate sessions.

Master Classes

- These sessions capped at 8 participants are designed for teachers and leaders who have been implementing the WLA for at least 2 years. Discussions are wide reaching and in depth. They cover a range of issues related to strategic planning, team dynamics, philosophy of teaching and learning, individual goal setting, refining implementation of the WLA and other issues identified by participants. Master classes can be customised to suit your needs and are conducted across Australia.

Individual School Mentoring

- This is highly recommended and is a major part of the professional development we offer to individual teams within schools. The mentoring includes a mix of discussions such as planning, room set up, communicating to parents as well as modelling sessions in classrooms from our team: tuning in, reflection, running an investigation session, checking in with the communication board, class meeting, clinic groups and student led conferences.

Whole School Overviews

- It is highly recommended that a whole staff overview be conducted at a staff meeting to ensure that all staff are informed about the WLA. This session unites the school community and ensures shared understandings.

Half Day Introductory Symposium

- This is a must for any teacher and leadership team intending to implement or find out about the WLA. The key elements of the approach will be unpacked. Symposiums of either half or full days are conducted for groups of schools and teachers across Australia. Independent sessions are conducted for WLA (P-2) and WLA (3-6); sessions will also be tailored to suit school needs.

Saturday Morning Professional Development

- Saturday morning sessions are offered to enable teachers to attend some of our professional development and master classes without the challenge of needing to leave school. The sessions finish by 12.30pm on a Saturday - that still leaves time for some rest and relaxation over the weekend while helping out the school PD budget!

After School Professional Development

- After school sessions are offered to provide greater opportunity for teachers to participate in PD without needing to be released during class time.

Study Tours

- These are our most popular professional development opportunity! Study tours provide an immersion of the practical and theoretical aspects of the WLA. The tour combines visits to schools implementing the WLA for teachers to observe directly what and how the WLA is implemented, as well as professional development presentations each afternoon from Kathy and Shona. We offer 2-day study tours for P-2 and 1-day study tours for grades 3-6 (and a combination of both). Customised study tours are available and in 2012 study tours will be offered in Tasmania, ACT and regional Victoria.

Skype / Video / Tele Conferencing

- This support has been developed for schools implementing the WLA but are not able to access regular mentoring and professional development due to geographical challenges. This range of "distance support for professional development" options is available for all schools but particularly for rural, regional and remote schools.

Parent Information Sessions

- We offer specific parent sessions on teaching and learning in the 21st century where we include a parent friendly description and outline of the WLA. This is highly recommended. We also offer parent sessions on a range of topics including behaviour, resilience, school readiness, school transition, and the importance of play and future proofing children as they move into their teenage years.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

Early Primary Years (P-Grade 2)

Introduction WLA (P-2)	Friday: 10th February 9th March 27th April 1st June 20th July 31st August 26th October 23rd November	Presentation of the key elements of the approach in the early years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up the environment • Linking literacy and numeracy • The investigation session • What a week looks like • Linking to frameworks • Planning • Implementation strategies for teams and schools
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Professional Development and Support Sessions

Scaffolding Tuning In and Reflection	Saturday: 18th August Wednesday: 21st March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of a variety of strategies for scaffolding and extending learning and skills in all areas through tuning in and reflection. Explanations of how to link back to learning throughout the day in all subject areas. Focus children, freebies, photographers, reporters, roster systems and other strategies will be explained and links to literacy and numeracy demonstrated.
Planning and Documentation	Saturday: 20th October Wednesday: 6th June	Demonstration of the range of documentation that enhance and streamline planning, observations, assessment and reporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning templates • Daily record sheets • Portfolios • Journals • Individual record sheets
Learning Environment, Scaffolding & Linking to Learning	Saturday: 28th April Wednesday: 1st August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a practical hands-on session in an actual school environment. Presentation on how to set up the environment and how to provide provocations and to set up learning centres. It provides practical ideas for enriching and using the environment and resources to help scaffold and extend learning. We also provide video and photos of outdoor learning centres, open plan and traditional small classrooms.
Linking Literacy, Numeracy & Other Subject Areas	Saturday: 25th February Wednesday: 7th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This session has a major focus on the variety of ways literacy and numeracy can be strengthened and deepened during investigations and formal teaching. It also provides examples of how to link and incorporate other areas such as science, music, arts.

Middle and Upper Primary Years (Grades 3-6)

Introduction WLA (3-6)	Friday: 17th February 23rd March 22nd June 24th August 9th November	Presentation of the key elements of the approach in grades (3-6): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up the environment • Communication boards • Education Research Projects • Clinic groups • Communication Boards • Class meetings and expos • Linking projects framework outcomes • Linking literacy and numeracy • Implementation strategies for teams and school
Professional Development and Support Sessions	Saturday: 18th February 2nd June 4th August 1st September Wednesday: 28th March 16th May 12th September 21st November	A unique opportunity to hear from Kathy Walker and Shona Bass: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refining and scoping the Education Research Projects (ERP) throughout a term and across year levels • Conducting an actual ERP session: 1-1 sessions, whole group and immersion sessions • How to utilise the communication board including a range of electronic medium • Using clinic groups effectively • Refining class meetings • Linking literacy and numeracy

NOTE: Professional Development Support Sessions: A unique opportunity to hear from Kathy Walker and Shona Bass who provide a range of additional PD related to the implementation of the WLA. These sessions are for educators who have attended an introductory session and commenced implementing the WLA

GO TO BACK PAGE FOR STUDY TOURS, MASTER CLASSES, LEADERSHIP SEMINARS, COSTS AND BOOKING DETAILS

MASTER CLASSES

DATES

Thursdays: 4:15pm - 6:30pm

8th March 17th May 21st June

23rd August 25th October

LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

DATES

Fridays: 9:15am - 12:30pm

9th March

26th October

Study Tours

- Opportunities to meet and share with other teachers who are at various levels of understanding and implementation of the WLA (prep-2 and/or 3-6).
- The chance to visit and observe schools that are at different stages of their journey and have different challenges and opportunities.
- To observe tuning in, reflection, investigations, class meeting and an ERP session.
- To discuss and explore aspects of the approach including setting up the environment, planning, documentation and linking to literacy and numeracy.

2-Day Study Tour Early Childhood (P - grade 2)	15th & 16th March 2nd & 3rd August	24th & 25th May 13th & 14th September	14th & 15th June 15th & 16th November
1-Day Study Tour Middle/Upper Primary (grades 3-6)	1st March 10th August	11th May 17th September	7th June 26th November
1-Day Study Tour Early/Middle/Upper Primary (P - grade 6)	26th March 3rd December	25th June	3rd September

- Information (including an example itinerary) regarding the 2-day and 1-day study tours is available at www.walkerlearning.com.au

Costs & Times

Saturday Sessions \$120

(9:30am-12:30pm includes morning tea)

After School Sessions: \$95

(4:15pm-6:00pm includes afternoon tea)

Half Day Symposium \$135

(Fridays 1:00pm-4:30pm includes afternoon tea)

Leadership Seminar \$120

(Fridays 9:15am-12:30pm includes morning tea)

Master Class \$95

(4:15pm-6:30pm includes afternoon tea)

Study Tours:

- WLA (P-2) 2-day study tour \$475
- WLA (3-6) & WLA (P-6) 1-day study tour \$275

Includes school visits, transport to schools, PD sessions, lunch, morning and afternoon tea.

Bookings

Book online via the bookings menu at www.walkerlearning.com.au - call the office on 9523 5595 if you would like more information.

Cancellation Policy: A minimum of 10 working days notice prior to the session date is required to cancel or reschedule a registration: credits can be used for (i) another person to attend the session or (ii) another session in the same calendar year.

Full costs will be incurred for cancellations less than 10 working days prior to session date.

Venue

Venue for all professional development except Saturdays will be at the Australian Institute of Management, 181 Fitzroy St, St Kilda, VIC 3182
Ph: (03) 9534 8181.

Parking available; (i) meter parking on Fitzroy St (ii) discount parking at Regal Parking \$5 per day

EARLY LIFE FOUNDATIONS

Telephone (03) 9523 5595

Facsimile (03) 9523 5595

P.O. Box 364, Elwood, VIC 3184

A.B.N. 84 669 062 465

www.earlylife.com.au

www.walkerlearning.com.au

Early Life Foundations and the Walker Learning Approach provide evidence based practice.

www.facebook.com/EarlyLifeFoundations

www.facebook.com/WalkerLearningApproach

Visit our website's for more information related to professional development opportunities for early childhood educators, parent support, literature, lists of schools implementing the approach, WLA accredited teachers and much more!

