

Network Principal's Message

The rich collaboration between schools in the Wanneroo Education Network is due to the combined effort of many staff. We would like to acknowledge the following people for their dedication to supporting WEN colleagues:

- Jamie Kitin, Renee Roach, Tania Short, Kirin Akroyd and Helen Abbott have put in a mammoth effort to build capacity of school leaders in the Learning Disabilities Toolkit.
- Cathy Smith, Pip Perry and Kathy Bullock have worked tirelessly to support staff in their Early Childhood and Business Managers networks.
- Mandy Froud has provided effective leadership for the Science Working Group.
- 21 school leaders and teachers have engaged in the Mental Health project this year. Their dedication to leading improvement in their schools has been exceptional.

This year, over 400 people have participated in WEN professional learning events. Thank you to all of the presenters who have spent many hours preparing and

delivering workshops. The WEN school leaders are grateful to work with such motivated professionals who are committed to developing themselves and others.

Mental Health Project

In Term 3, project participants created a toolkit of strategies to support students who demonstrate behaviours including social withdrawal, perfectionism, task refusal, emotional outbursts and excessive worrying. The strategies have been drawn from a range of recommended resources and suit primary and secondary school aged students. The toolkit will be ready for release this term.

Brightpath: Science

Eleven network staff are developing a state-wide assessment tool to measure student progress in Science Inquiry Skills. In Term 3, the group identified suitable investigations and questioning aligned with the curriculum for Years 3-6. This term, staff will collect 300 work samples and undertake pairwise comparison to develop a calibrated scale. The tool will be utilised by WA schools in 2018.

Digital Technologies

Curriculum leaders from all WEN schools will work collaboratively over the next twelve months to support the implementation of Digital Technologies. Their role is to build staff capacity in relation to curriculum, planning and reporting. The working group is currently developing a K-10 Digital Technologies Framework that will promote consistency and cohesion across our schools. The Framework will be released to schools in Term 1, 2018.

In The Spotlight

The focus for *In The Spotlight* this year has been mental health. Previously, we have explored determinants and early warning signs for mental health problems. In this edition, the importance of developing emotional literacy and self-regulation skills in students struggling with their mental health is in the spotlight. Read on to learn about a program designed to develop these skills in primary and secondary students.

Eleanor Hughes
Network Principal



Developing Emotional Literacy

Developing emotional literacy is a key element in supporting students struggling with their mental health. Explicitly teaching emotional literacy is particularly important as many students are not aware of what they are feeling, what triggers their negative feelings and how to respond in a more appropriate way.

The Zones of Regulation is a program that supports the development of emotional literacy and self-regulation skills. The program contains lessons, worksheets, an app and visuals that assist primary and secondary aged students to:

- identify their feelings;
- understand how their behaviour impacts those around them; and
- learn tools to manage their feelings and problem solve conflicts more effectively.

The Zones of Regulation can be implemented at an individual, class or whole school level. The activities can be facilitated by any adult including teachers, education assistants, school chaplains and parents. For more information about The Zones visit www.zonesofregulation.com or contact your Consulting Teacher at SSEN: Disability.

Upcoming Professional Learning Events

Date	Workshop	Venue
16 Oct	Cooperative Learning	Carramar PS
19 Oct	Autism (Primary)	Tapping PS
26 Oct	Autism (Secondary)	Wanneroo SC