

Australian Developmental Curriculum

Key procedures for implementation of a developmental curriculum

These processes for implementing a developmental curriculum are strongly recommended. Implementing the developmental curriculum in order to sustain the approach and to link the approach with state curriculum expectations requires careful thought, understanding, time and ongoing support.

Ongoing Mentoring and supports

Schools that work with Kathy and her colleagues use a mentor/coaching model where ongoing support, ideas and strategies are provided as teachers implement the approach.

The importance of leadership support and understanding

As much as possible, it is important to have the leadership of the school supportive and understanding of the approach.

- Understanding of philosophy
- Clarity of direction
- Rationale for change
- Timeline for implementation and strategies
- Commitment to the philosophy
- Support from leadership

Professional Development

A series of discussions is highly recommended in order to avoid the recipe approach of other programs that come and go. The developmental curriculum is based upon a philosophy and curriculum and is not just about adding to an existing framework. It involves discussion and revisiting of research and understanding about children's development and learning and teaching.

- Discussion of values and beliefs about children and learning and teaching
- Consideration of implications re curriculum topics, reporting and assessment, timetabling, etc
- Introduction and overview of Developmental curriculum

Suggested professional development sessions

- Overview of a developmental curriculum alongside state frameworks
- Implications of child development /Child development theory
- Planning and implementing a developmental curriculum P-2
- What a day looks like in the approach
- Linking literacy and numeracy
- Integrating the curriculum
- Assessment
- Reporting
- Observation: developmental domains
- Role of and planning implications for Specialist teachers
- Integrated curriculum: what happens to it?
- Literacy and numeracy how does it fit?
- Play based curriculum-types of play
- Working effectively with parents
- Setting up of classrooms
- Resources and budget considerations

Working with and informing parents

During the process of implementation it is helpful to have parents informed about the approach and to help them understand what is involved. Kathy and her colleagues are able to provide these parent presentations at schools.

For further information please contact Kathy Walker via [e mail](#)

Kathy's new book on developmental curriculum is called Play Matters Australian Developmental curriculum and is available through her website.