

FOSTERING RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNITIES

Ehara taku toa, i te toa takitahi engari he toa takitini.

Success/ strength is not the work of one, but the work of many.

CORE Education Early Years facilitators have experience and expertise in developing meaningful relationships in a diverse range of communities. Current literature highlights the importance of collaboration with parents and communities to positive outcomes for children's learning. We can support you to find ways (including using ICT) to engage with and build strong relationships with diverse communities.

We believe that flexibility and responsiveness are vital to effective professional learning. Therefore, the topics detailed on this abstract sheet can be offered either through workshops or as an ongoing setting-based professional learning 'package', tailored to your requirements.

CORE Education also offers professional learning opportunities for the following:

- Teaching and learning for the 21st Century
- Integrating ICT for teaching and learning
- Curriculum design
- Governance and management

TRANSITIONS

Children experience numerous transitions during their early years. Moving into unfamiliar territory can be demanding for both children and adults, as it is a period of change and adaptation involving new relationships, roles and responsibilities. Teachers/educators can be influential mediators of children's experiences when they have an understanding of where children are moving to, where they come from and what they bring to their new learning context. We can support you to pay attention to and respond to the transitions children and their families make during their time in your setting. We can also help you incorporate ICT into transition processes.

- **Moving into.** Developing welcoming enrolment and participation procedures that set the scene for positive relationships, aligned with the culture of your community.
- **Moving within.** Supporting children as they move from 'unders to overs', afternoon to morning sessions, or other transitions.
- **Moving beyond.** Building relationships that involve sharing knowledge, understandings and responsibilities as children and family/whānau make the transition to new settings, including school.

EFFECTIVE LEARNING COMMUNITIES

A collaborative learning community/whakawhanaungatanga is constructed through the every day responsive and reciprocal relationships that develop between those who belong to it. There is no universal approach or perspective to this development, but rather each setting will respond to the richness of their diverse community in different ways. Our facilitators can provide support to strengthen the foundations for respectful community relationships, using a range of approaches including multi-media.

- **Inspiring leadership.** We can work alongside leaders and aspiring leaders on the development of both curriculum and administrative leadership, using well known mentoring and coaching approaches to facilitation.
- **Parent/whānau collaboration.** Recent literature reinforces the view that parental participation in children's education contributes toward strengthening children's learning outcomes. New technologies

now offer diverse and exciting possibilities for extending this participation. We can work with you to achieve your goals for parent/whanau involvement and collaboration within your community. We will do this by drawing on best practices of both face-to-face and virtual approaches to communication.

- **Expanding communication strategies.** We will work with settings to explore tools and strategies that have proven successful in fostering relationships and communication within and beyond early childhood settings. For example, with local iwi, kaumatua, Pasifika communities, and specialist support agencies.

TEAM WORK

There is nothing more rewarding than working in an effective team environment. Teachers and communities that have the ability to work as a team contribute to positive learning outcomes for children. CORE facilitators can support you to explore strategies for establishing and maintaining team relationships at a range of levels including governance, management and teaching teams.

- **Values and beliefs** Teams work more effectively when individual values and beliefs are shared and respected. Our facilitators are skilled in interactive strategies that surface values and beliefs in a safe environment.
- **Enhancing the professional team.** We provide a range of facilitation strategies to promote in-depth team discussion, effective collaboration and resolving challenging situations.
- **Facilitating difficult conversations.** We can provide mentoring support to help you prepare for a difficult conversation or we can provide mediation support.

WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS

If you are planning to run workshops for your community, we can work with you on the content and presentation to ensure that your presentation is engaging and your messages clear.

- **Presenting with purpose and audience in mind.** We will help you plan your content and ensure that your presentation reflects your purpose and connects with your audience.
- **Using multi-media to strengthen and support your message effectively.** Learn how to make the most of video, photographs and various software programmes to create visually appealing and effective newsletters, fliers, handouts.
- **Effective facilitation.** Interactive strategies for engaging groups.
- **Providing your guest speaker.** While we would rather help you to run a successful workshop for your community, we acknowledge that at times having a guest speaker is valuable too. We are willing to be your guest speaker if the topic is one that we can confidently provide for your group.