



Education Support Services University of Otago Newsletter



October 2019

Education Support Services 'Facilitating Quality Professional Learning'

Tēnā koutou

I hope the new term has started well for you.

The Term Four round for PLD proposals close shortly across the country. If you are thinking of applying for PLD hours for 2020, ESS facilitators can provide free support for your school, kura or Kāhui Ako to develop a proposal. If you would like support please contact us.

The dates for Term 4 PLD applications are:

Otago/Southland: Applications close 18 October.

Canterbury: Applications close 25 October.

Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast: Applications close 25 October.

Wellington: Applications close 23 October.

Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatu: Applications close 13 November.

Hawkes Bay: Applications close 31 October.

A Digital Technology Story



Our Technology Facilitator Cheryl Pym (cheryl.pym@otago.ac.nz) has been working in a number of schools supporting them to develop understanding of the curriculum changes and implement robust programs of learning incorporating the new Technological areas of Computational Thinking, and Designing and Developing Digital Outcomes.

Discovery School in Wellington has been one school that has been working with Cheryl all year. This began with all staff coming together to explore the Technology learning area statement and structure, developing an understanding of what progression in Technology looks like, and crafting a vision for teaching and learning and what progression would look like across the four syndicates. After this was established, each syndicate met with Cheryl for half day sessions to plan learning experiences that were situated in the three strands and incorporated the new digital content. Staff have been using local contexts for learning such as Tuia 250 and Matariki to set the scene for the learning, and using video creation, 3D printing cookie cutters and making celebration biscuits, exploring circuits and creating learning games in digital formats. Staff have been challenged with new learning but excited to see the engagement of students in these authentic contexts.



Planning your PLD requirements for 2020

Education Support Services has a nationwide reputation for quality, responsive Professional Learning and Development (PLD). Our highly qualified, accredited facilitators have expertise in working with the New Zealand Curriculum and assessment to support teachers and leaders to use effective pedagogical practices to enhance outcomes for students.

We have accredited facilitators based in the North and South Island who can provide PLD support to enhance teachers' practice and improve outcomes for learners. Our experienced facilitators can support a range of areas including:

- Leadership,
- Cultural Capability,
- Local Curriculum Design,
- Assessment for Learning,
- Primary and Secondary Learning Area support including Digital Fluency,
- Primary and Secondary Literacy,
- Early Childhood centres supporting early learning,
- PCT, OTT and Mentor support,

and of course tailored PLD to suit the needs of your school, kura and staff.

Contact ian.stevens@otago.ac.nz for information and matching a facilitator to your needs or explore our website: <http://www.otago.ac.nz/education/ess>

How to contact us



Office Administration

Education Support Services
Education Centre
157 Union Street East
P O Box 56

Dunedin 9054

Phone: (03) 479 4900

Website:

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/education/ess>

Director:

Ian Stevens

Phone: (03) 479 4907

Email: ian.stevens@otago.ac.nz

Promoting equity in school environments

Term Four is a time when schools often undertake reflection and review – examining outcomes for students and teachers, and looking ahead to the following year. Questions that leaders may consider at this time include:

How do we ensure that our school environments are places of equity? Who is succeeding and who is not? Why?

'An equitable education system is one where all students, regardless of their ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or abilities, can succeed. While New Zealand's education system performs well overall, large gaps in equity still remain for some student groups.' (Bolton, 2017 see [Fullbright, Bolton](#))

Rangatahi Māori represent the fastest growing sector of New Zealand's population and need to be equipped with the tools to be inspired by their future, succeeding as Māori, confident in their culture and prosperous in their careers.

Ref: Te Pae Tawhiti, Tokona Te Raki Māori Futures Collective

<http://www.maorifutures.co.nz/>

Pedro Noguera (Prof of Education, UCLA) suggests that schools who promote equity among students do three things well: (See this video - [Pedro Noguera 2019](#))

- They create positive learning environments
- They know every learner well
- They focus on making connections and making learning relevant

Does this happen in your school, in every classroom?

What are some areas that could be worked on in 2020 in order to create experiences that excite and engage learners?

You may be considering development in areas such as curriculum design, wellbeing, student agency, community partnerships, or collaboration. If this is part of your PLD for 2020, and you would like some external support, please contact us.

