

Accredited Program Evaluation for

Sue Larkey Online Programme Education Events (2017)

Number of attendees: 53 Evaluations received: 41 Evaluation response rate: 77%



Ratings

- 1 The program effectively addressed the nominated Australian Professional Standards for Teachers or Australian Professional Standard for Principals.\*
- 2 I gained useful knowledge and understanding through participating in this program.\*
- 3 The content of the program was appropriate and helpful for my practice.\*
- 4 The program description accurately reflected the content delivered and intended learning outcomes for participants.\*
- 5 The program provided an effective learning experience.\*



# 6 What aspects of the program will be most useful?\* (Maximum 2000 characters)

- \* Understanding why people with a diagnosis of ASD behave they way they do. Different strategies to put in place when working with kids with ASD.
- \* The very practical solutions to behaviours we want to divert or avoid will be the most useful aspect of the program. Sue Larkey gave very clear instructions on how to address a wide range of issues and I have already implemented them across the classrooms I teach in at the school.

The following is a list of the most useful aspects I got from this PL- although I learned a great deal more than this: Always say their name before an instruction, otherwise they won't know that you are talking to them.

Delayed response time. Give the student ten seconds at least to process the instruction or question before they respond to you. They are not being naughty or ignoring you. It just takes that long to process and respond.

Always instruct them on what to do not what not to do.

Ladies and any men with lighter, higher voices, please try to use a monotone, lower voice and keep it calm: Use simple instructions. Don't ramble or be conversational while giving instructions.

Do not suddenly interrupt class during an activity that is already underway to add further instructions. This disruption can halt any work from the student altogether.

Provide the pencil, the workbook, spare paper, any tools the student needs the teacher can hand directly to them. You can't get rid of a behaviour, you can only replace the behaviour with another one. The teacher can choose the behaviour. Refer to the Sue Larkey behaviour books.

Limit choices. Choosing a free time activity can be stressful and may lead to unexpected choices.

- \* I have found all five parts extremely important and useful. I particularly have found the session discussing girls and ASD of high interest.
- \* The knowledge gained regarding how to effectively teach students on the spectrum was invaluable and provided me with strategies that I will definitely implement.
- \* Practical strategies for dealing with autism in the classroom and in 1:1 teaching episodes. Insights into the way to ensure there is inclusion in the classroom.
- \* The depth of understanding of ASD students and strategies to optimise thei learning capabilities.
- \* Strategies to use in the classroom
- \* Sue Larkey gave extremely valuable and helpful tips in her video series. The five hour course gave specific and practical examples of strategies that are best suited to ASD kids. All teachers should be aware of how to best educate and cater for all students in their care.
- \* Strategies I could realistically implement.
- \* The printouts of the slide information, readings and the different strategies that were talked about were the most useful parts of the program.
- \* It helped me to understand that ASD has an individual nature. All children with ASD are different. Strategies that may work for one child will not work for another. Also, strategies wear out and need to be changed.
- \* The large range of strategies to try. I know not every one of the strategies will work for every child but I think it is really important to try them to find out which ones will work. It was useful to have the printed handout.
- \* The most useful part of the program was the variety of strategies provided and the explanation of the difference between tantrums and meltdowns.
- \* a refresh of ideas to assist all students particularly those with ASD to maintain strong connections to learning
- \* Classroom strategies
- \* The information that Sue gave helped me understand why certain students exhibit certain behaviours, and what these behaviours mean. I was provided with information on how to deal with behaviour, how to tailor education, how to support their learning, and just overall understand each child.
- \* Strategies to assist students with ASD.
- \* Strategies provide by Sue Larkey, resources suggested and the common language and processes used among our staff.



#### 6 What aspects of the program will be most useful?\* (Maximum 2000 characters)

- \* The most useful aspects of the program were the strategies to help children with ASD flourish in the classroom. One aspect that stood out for me was how children with ASD like 'old school' learning styles, particularly because I find my teaching is very modern. For example having the same routine every day helps children with ASD's anxiety. A Monday morning might include the same routines of handwriting, weekend recount etc, in a booklet that looks the same every Monday. So when the child enters the classroom they know exactly what to do and there is limited surprise.
- \* The Course outline and resources as a reference for later planning and development. The online nature and flexibility of timing and delivery of the course made it very accessible
- \* The strategies for assisting students with ASD within the classroom.
- \* practical strategies to use in class.
- \* A bette runderstanding of ASD students and their needs.
- \* The wonderful, practical strategies that were provided to support students with ASD is certainly the most useful aspect of this PL that I will take away from it.

It is not just the list of strategies but the reasoning behind each one and the 'how to' to ensure success, that was clearly articulated and very easy to implement.

The PL also provided quality reading, audio and visual resources to back up, maintain and as go to support to clarify or provide further help in the future.

- \* What I found most useful was not only did it provide useful and practical solutions when teaching a student with ASD, it provided a clear and easy to understand insight into the world of a student with ASD. It also provided further readings and resources to help build our knowledge and skills, as well as improve our teaching practice.
- \* This online program was highly engaging and provided deep knowledge and understanding of ASD. Each lesson had a clear focus and were sequential. The presenter, Sue Larkey, provided first-hand experiences to explain ASD and the implementation of strategies to

support these students.

Notes from each lesson could be downloaded.

- \* The resources ( have since purchased some for the school) the language-have discussed using this language consistently with staff, the ideas- short, sharp and concise
- \* I enjoyed how Sue related scenarios for a child on the spectrum to us (adults) as it created a window into how they think, act and feel. During the PL we were exposed to a huge range of strategies whether it be verbal, visual or concrete to assist in the classroom.
- \* This PL will support me in my endeavors to improve my teaching when dealing with students on the autism spectrum. I now understand how they comprehend the world they live in and appreciate the factors that can cause them to behave in what may be perceived as socially unacceptable.

I also acknowledge how important consistent practices are when dealing with these students and recognize the necessity for school and home environments to communicate frequently. Mainly to ensure that the same strategies and management practices are utilized and changes to routines are kept to a minimum. environments.

- \* The range of practical strategies offered through the PL to support the inclusion and learning of students on the autism spectrum. In particular the emphasis on understanding each students' learning needs and interests and ways to modify the environment (Eg. use of routines, visual time tables, sensory objects and rewards) and encourage students to regulate their emotions.
- \* The course gave me new strategies to work with the children I work with. It also reminded me of strategies I have not used for a while.
- \* The importance of monitoring the behaviour and triggers of children with ASD and how to prevent meltdowns and what strategies and tools that are useful. Knowing that all ASD children are not the same.
- \* There was a great deal of content in the 5 webinars. The most helpful was the overall understanding Sue was able to express in the 5 hours. some of these include:

The "be a GPS" discription

The impact their cognitive ablilty has on their learning

The impact their precess and memory has on how content to be learnt needs to be delivered.

The repitition needed to ensure learning becomes imbedded in long term memory.



## 6 What aspects of the program will be most useful?\* (Maximum 2000 characters)

- \* All of it was extremely useful. It was clearly presented in a way that was very easy to follow.
- \* The strategies and information about helpful resources are useful.
- \* The behaviour management strategies that were recommended in the Professional Learning course will be (and already is) useful in the classroom. The course provided a huge range of strategies which enabled me to try different strategies and look at which ones work best. The course also provided information about how to respond to students while in the middle of a meltdown, and how to prevent future ones.
- \* The practical advice for scaffolding of homework & assignments. The encouraging advice around sharing an ASD diagnosis with peers. The wonderful ideas about how to begin that conversation in a classroom (using a 'me' box filled with items to describe an individual).
- \* All of it.
- \* The most useful thing for me was the many practical strategies I could use for students on the spectrum in the classroom! As each student is so individual I loved learning so many tools/strategies to use! I also loved the flexible nature of the course! Being able to complete it at home online in 5 one hour workshops was great too!
- \* practical behaviour management strategies
- \* Strategies for supporting children with ASD



## 7 How could the program be improved?\* (Maximum 2000 characters)

- \* this program was amazing and I wouldn't change anything about it. I loved how I could work through at my own pace. I felt I gained so much out of this course I will definitely be signing up for another.
- \* The program itself was brilliant. My only regret is that the video resource is only available for 6 weeks and it is something I could have turned to over the years whenever I had a new student or situation to cater to. I understand that copyright would be an issue- it wouldn't be fair to share the videos with other people for example, and yet it would have been great to be able to buy a companion book. I know Sue Larkey has lots of books for sale... but I wouldn't know which one to begin with. Luckily my school has agreed to buy several of them.
- \* I enjoyed all aspects and would not change it. However, I would recommend that it is an essential program for all teachers and support staff as everyone would benefit from it.
- \* I actually can't think of anything that would improve this program.
- \* Some of the online modules were glitching/buffering but this could have been problems from my end. The Tech support from Andrew Larkey was fantastic anyway. I did not find the website for online classes easy to navigate = it didn't seem intuitive and I often couldn't find how to get to a particular module after signing out on completion of the previous module. Again, this could be my way of looking at things, rather than a fault of the website itself.
- \* More sessions! Sue Larkey is fabulous!

\* no

- \* I felt that the program was excellent and i couldn't see any way that it could be improved. The ease of use was fantastic as I could complete the course at home, online, in my own time.
- \* Maybe some collegial talks.
- \* I don't feel that there needs to be any improvement surrounding the program. I loved the webinar format.
- \* No real improvements. Handouts were helpful and good to refer to.
- \* I would have found it very useful to have a copy of the webinar script to be able to highlight and pull out important points.
- \* I was very satisfied with the program so don't feel it needs improvement.
- \* none
- \* I think it was informative and thorough, I don't think the program needs to be improved.
- \* It was pretty good, I don't really see how it could be improved.
- \* It was a great program and I cant think of any improvements.
- \* Because the workshop was on-line it was accessible which is always positive. It would be wonderful to do an actual workshop wit Sue Larkey.
- \* I don't think the program could be improved other than perhaps the cost involved for doing an online course. Sue Larkey presents really well and made each module purposeful for classroom teachers. If anything, I wish I was able to rewatch them later in case I forget some of the things she said in my notes.
- \* I thought it was great as it was
- \* I was very happy with the content provided.
- \* Interactive feedback with course tutors.
- \* The use of graphics at times was a little hard to follow.
- \* The format of this PL was excellent.
- \* I felt the program was comprehensive and I gathered a wealth of skills and knowledge. Therefore I am unable to see how it can be improved .
- \* I found this program to be really engaging and rich with information. Therefore I can't think any improvements.



## 7 How could the program be improved?\* (Maximum 2000 characters)

- \* This was a wonderful course. Sue has been doing this for a while- I am unsure- maybe a refresher course could be offered for those that have already completed the course????
- \* I was extremely happy with the presentation and content of this professional learning. It would be great to add onto the handout commonly asked questions/answers to provide any additional information.
- \* This PI involved several modules and the last two could be condensed. The case study videos utilized to support the presenter were valuable but very long. They could probably be edited or newer, more up to date material sourced.
- \* Topics covered and specific learning outcomes for each of the five sessions could be included up front in the power point presentations.
- \* I would not change any of the course.
- \* Sorry can't think of anything
- \* I transcript of the webinars would greatly assist those of us who are not auditory learners.
- \* Not much room for improvement. It was great!
- \* Much less repetition and selling of the author's literature/resources. The website shows what is there. I would have appreciated having more practical ideas, given that funding is so tight and most children do not have access to a teacher's aide/learning support assistant. Some ideas were impractical because there isn't an extra person to assist and there isn't a budget to buy extra resources. Ideas on how to make use of what is already available, especially for higher ability students.
- \* Being an online course, I sometimes found it difficult to stay engaged because it was so easy to be distracted. However, I have found that Sue Larkey does the same course in person which would be just as interesting.
- \* More lectures as I found these 5 very engaging and useful. Maybe a bit more advice re: teens and secondary students.
- \* This program was brilliant and I don't think it needs to be improved.
- \* Sue Larkey asked this same question during her evaluation of the course and I could not think of anything then. I still can't think of anything now. I found this course incredibly useful!
- \* more interaction
- \* I was happy with the program



## 8 Other comments about the program? (Optional) (Maximum 2000 characters)

- \* should be compulsory for all teachers!
- \* This is the best PL I have done. It has helped me address many issues I have had to deal with in class and on the playground with a number of students. I'm pretty grateful!!
- \* I thoroughly enjoyed Sue Larkey's program. Her passion within the ASD area shows clearly in her work.
- \* It was excellent and I would certainly recommend it to others.
- \* Very encouraging, very supporting, very insightful. A wonderful program from which I have learnt a great deal. Thank you Sue!
- \* One of the best PL's I've ever done, I wish I had completed it sooner it has made me very reflective of my teaching practice and I can't wait to include lots of new ideas and fine tune my existing pedagogy.
- \* This is the first time I have done an online webinar series this was highly valuable and the five hours were very worthwhile learning for me as a teacher.
- \* Sue Larkey is very easy to listen to. She makes the content of her webinar easy to understand and talks from first hand experience which is beneficial.
- \* none
- \* I would recommend this workshop to other teachers and classroom assistants...anyone involved in education with students with ASD.
- \* It was excellent for anyone working with ASD children, and I will recommend to other teachers and parents.
- \* It was excellent and I would strongly recommend it to other teachers.
- \* The way this PL was broken up into 5 separate modules made it very easy to follow, with clear learning intentions stated at the start of each module. Each new module reflected on the previous one to remind you of your previous learning and how the new module will build on what you already know. One of the best PLs I have done!
- \* This PL was an extremely worthwhile training tool for teachers dealing with students on the spectrum and the online course was very well organized and relevant to the needs of educators.

I would encourage all colleagues to make time to use the online resources the presenter provides.

- \* Sue Larkey brings a very pragmatic approach to supporting educators (teachers and parents alike) in seeking to understand the learning needs of students on the autism spectrum and to encouraging shared responsibility between educator and child in supporting individual's in their social-emotional development.
- \* Excellent.
- \* It was great!
- \* Every teacher, student and parent should do this course in some way shape or form... perhaps community forums. In my opinion it is that good and that important.