

Maree Kirk presents

Wellbeing for children with a disability in New Zealand

About this Workshop

Maree Kirk presents the findings of her research **WELLBEING FOR CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY IN NZ**. This workshop looks at policy frameworks and data that relate to the wellbeing of children in New Zealand.

The focus of her PhD research is to look at the experience of wellbeing of young people with a disability at regular New Zealand schools. A key finding is that the dimensions of wellbeing can be considered the same or very similar for all children, as we would anticipate. It is the intention of this thesis to identify ways in which policy frameworks and practical strategies can be created or adapted to identify the needs of this particular group of students, the 10% of the child population with a disability.

Workshop objectives;

To provide an overview of the concept of wellbeing and the importance of this understanding for policy and service development.

To provide an overview of policy for children in New Zealand and consider the relevance of these frameworks for the specific population of children with a disability.

To provide an overview of concept of wellbeing as applied in the education of children and how this can be considered within the IEP process.



About Maree Kirk

Maree is a Doctoral Candidate at the University of Waikato. She has a career background in health and has

more recently completed her Master of Social Science (Hons) at Waikato. She contracts as a Teaching Fellow in the Department of Societies and Cultures and School of Education at the University of Waikato.

Her research interests include: children, wellbeing, disability, social inclusion, demography and social policy. She has presented both nationally and internationally on her research topic of *Wellbeing for children and young people with a disability in New Zealand*. She was the recipient of a New Zealand Building Research Capability in Social Sciences Award (2007).

Maree is the President of the Bay of Plenty Down Syndrome Association Inc. an incorporated society operating as a charitable trust to provide an educational resource package to students with Down Syndrome and learning disability in local educational environments. Maree is the mother of four children and regularly advocates on topics related to communication skills, social inclusion and inclusive teaching strategies.

These workshops are suited to those who wish to work towards making inclusive education happen, and consider their own role/practice within the context of education of all children in NZ

WHEN Thursday, 26 August 2010, 9.00am – 3.30pm
VENUE Western Springs Gardens Hall, 956 Great North Rd
COST Professionals \$80, Whanau, Parents, students, unwaged \$20

Workshop includes: Presentation, handouts, Lunch, tea and coffee

To Register Email your contact and invoicing details to admin@autism.org.nz
Internet payment 011159-0069426-00 with the reference 26AUGWKSHP and your name

