



**Early Childhood
Australia**

A voice for young children

Early Years National Framework

a nexus of possibilities

(n. pl. nexus or nex-us-es means of connection; a link or tie)

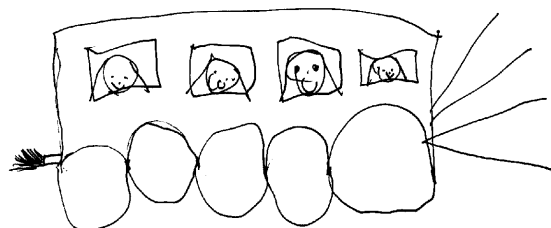
Presenters: Catharine Hydon and Kerrie O'Neill

23rd October 2010 10.30am—1.00pm

St Leonard's College, Cornish Campus

65 Riverend Rd, Bangholme, Victoria

This professional learning opportunity will explore the synergies between the Early Years Learning Framework and the Reggio Emilia Educational Project. Join with other educators to share insights, ask questions and discover the ways some practitioners are exploring the ideas of linking the inspiration and provocations from 'Reggio Emilia' with the national framework. The conversations will bring participants from the global to the local, draw meaningful insights from examples and challenge us all to offer experiences that transform and provoke.



Registration

REAIE Member \$80 incl gst

Non Members \$90 incl gst



Catharine Hydron has extensive experience in the early childhood sector in Australia and overseas. Beginning as a teacher in a sessional kindergarten program Catharine has gone on to manage a range of services for children and their families from childcare in the Northern suburbs of Melbourne to school based programs in Papua New Guinea.

Catharine's is very involved and committed to the early childhood field. She is a long time member of the Victorian Branch of Early Childhood Australia (ECA) and is currently serving as a Director on the National Board of ECA. She was a co-founder of Real Rights for Refugee Children an advocacy group for the promotion of refugee children's place in early childhood services and in 2003 was awarded the Barbara Creaser Memorial award for outstanding contribution to early childhood education. More recently Catharine has contributed to the review of the ECA Code of Ethics.

Catharine has a Masters in Early Childhood Education specialising in early childhood policy and governance. In 2005 she received the Jean Denton Scholarship for the completion of her Masters Studies enabling her to visit several integrated services in England.

Kerrie O'Neill has an extensive experience of working as a practitioner but also as a teacher/researcher. Kerrie is currently working at St Leonard's College in Victoria.

In 1995, Kerrie attended a conference sponsored and supported by Melbourne University that was to change her professional life. It was a conference where the presenters came from Reggio Emilia, a small town in northern Italy. This conference was followed by a study tour to the town in 1996 under the guidance and tutelage of Jan Millikan.



This trip was followed by another trip in 1997 and then consequently in 1999. The trip in 1999 was followed by another trip to the St Louis in the United States and then immediately followed by visits to Denmark and Sweden. The visits to the Scandinavian countries revealed 'forest schools' an educational experience which allows children to experience a symbiotic relationship with nature. It was also where Kerrie met Gunilla Dahlberg, an amazing educator who has gone on to co-author many politically provocative books about the nature of early childhood education. In 2009 Kerrie attended an advanced study tour which focused on documentation and the value of the aesthetic.

Kerrie is currently the Treasurer of the Reggio Emilia Australia Information Exchange, having been a founding member of the organisation since 2000. Kerrie's work with the exchange is in a voluntary capacity.

Kerrie has a Diploma in Teaching (Early Childhood); a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) and a Masters in Early Childhood Education.