



Learning Support Service Managers

Linda Youl



Linda moved into Learning Support from the position of Education Advisor for schools in the Selwyn District. In a former life Linda was a secondary teacher of Science, Economics and Accounting and Deputy Principal at various secondary schools. Linda also worked overseas in Abu Dhabi for four years as part of a 'schooling improvement' project. This was an interesting and challenging role.

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Atholea Shanks



After graduating from the Dunedin College of Education Atholea taught in primary schools and gained further qualifications in working with students with behaviour challenges and special learning needs. She worked in a variety of schools as a Specialist Teacher supporting ORS students before being appointed as a Special Education Adviser with MOE in 2006. In 2011 she was appointed to the Service Manager Learning Support position and leads the South Canterbury team.

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Patrick McEntyre



Patrick has recently started work in Christchurch for the Ministry of Education as a Service Manager. He leads a team of practitioners who provide specialist support to ECEs, schools and kura across central Christchurch. Patrick is an Educational Psychologist and has worked in the area of inclusive education in a variety of leadership roles for many years. As well as some prior work in Canterbury, Patrick has worked in the Nelson Office, supporting Tasman, Marlborough and the West Coast.

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Juanita Davidson



Juanita has been in the role of Learning Support Service Manager for a number of years. In this role she leads a team of practitioners who support schools and ECEs in the Bay area and the East of Christchurch. Juanita has a background in speech language therapy and early intervention.

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Bianca White



Bianca joined the Learning Support team at the end of 2017 as Service Manager. In this role she manages a team of practitioners who provide specialist support to ECEs and schools in North Canterbury. Prior to her current role, Bianca was a primary school teacher and team leader in New Zealand and Australia.

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Sue Harlow



Sue Harlow joined the Ministry of Education as Learning Support Service Manager for the Mid-Canterbury area in July 2018. Her years of engagement in secondary education within state and independent schools, including Lead Educator responsibilities at Te Poutama Arahi Rangatahi, have equipped her with a depth of experience in responding to the learning and behaviour needs of diverse ākonga.

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Kaye Hyams



Kaye Hyams joined the Ministry of Education in 1998 as an Occupational Therapist and became a Service Manager in Learning Support in 2015. Prior to this she worked in special education settings. Kaye has a breadth of knowledge about practices and therapies to support students with complex additional needs. She manages a team of practitioners across Riccarton and Hornby.

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Fiona Bartley



Fiona came to the Ministry of Education as a Speech Language Therapist 13 years ago, working across many of the teams in the Canterbury region. She took up the role of Service Manager in 2011, and supports a team of practitioners delivering specialist services across the northwest of the city.

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Marion Kazakos



Marion has worked for the Ministry of Education for over 20 years. She trained as a Speech Language Therapist and has worked in that role in schools and early childhood centres in the North Island and Christchurch. In 2013 she became Practice Advisor for Speech Language Therapy across the South Island. This involved her in many national projects and in supporting the practice of SLTs throughout the region. In 2017 Marion took up the role of Service Manager in Canterbury. Currently she manages a team of practitioners who support schools and ECEs in the Te Ara Tuhura cluster.

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