About Suzan Hirsch

Suzan Hirsch is a Lecturer at ACU. She has a Primary Teaching background and was the Boys Education Project Facilitator for the Diocese of Broken Bay which won a National Award for School Improvement in 2006. Suzan led the project and implemented strategies in her own school and classroom. The results have been presented at National and International Conferences. A multi-awarded educator, Suzan recently became a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators (FACE).

Suzan can assist your school by providing professional development for teachers, running Staff Development Days and Parent Information Sessions as well as planning and tracking Action Research Projects.

For more information on the workshops and seminars:
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Venue
Australian Catholic University
Strathfield Campus
25a Barker Road
Strathfield

Cricos registered provider: 00004G, 00112C, 00873F, 008858
Boys’ Literacy (Cost for 2 days: $ 300.00)  
Closing Date for registration: 18 September  
No refunds will be given if you cannot attend the second day.

This course has two parts which are directly linked. As information will be assumed on the second day the same person is expected to attend both days.

Part 1, Monday 28 September, 9 am – 3 pm  
In this session, the following questions will be unpacked through theory AND practical examples and resources:
- Why take a different approach to literacy with boys?
- How do I genuinely engage boys in literacy in the classroom?
- What is multi-literacy? What does it look like in the classroom?
- How do I collect data and how do I use this data to formulate my multi-literacy program?
- Does a specific approach for boys work? How do we know?

Between sessions teachers are asked to survey students using the multi-literacy and attitudinal surveys provided. These surveys take up to 30 minutes in total. PLEASE BRING COMPLETED SURVEYS AND TERM 4 PROGRAM TO SESSION 2.

Part 2, Thursday 1 October, 9 am – 3 pm  
In this session, teachers will use their survey information to assist development of their Term 4 English program. Teachers will:
- Examine their survey data
- Link theory to practice
- Explore practical methods of programming to cater for boys.

Teachers will leave the second session having grouped students based on data. By the end of this day teachers will have created and adapted their Term 4 literacy programs and activities. Thus teachers will be ready to implement their rich and engaging learning experiences with both boys and girls in Term 4.

Adapting the curriculum to cater for boys  
(Cost: $ 150.00)  
Friday, 30 October, 9 am – 3 pm  
Closing Date for registration: 23 October

Easy adaptations to existing programs will allow teachers to engage boys in the classroom- you will learn how! This course will unpack suggestions made by both the Federal Government’s 2002 Report into Educating Boys and leading boys’ education specialists to explore practical ways to adapt teaching and learning programs. To ensure boys are involved in rich, real and relevant learning experiences Howard Gardner’s Multiple Intelligence Theory will be explored and linked into programs as a proven way to engage boys in learning. Easy to use resources and program examples will be modelled.

Teachers are encouraged to bring their existing Term 4 programs/ideas to the course to tap into the expertise available and adapt their own programs to cater for boys in Term 4.

How can I genuinely use mentors and fathers in the classroom to engage boys?  
(Cost: $ 150.00)  
Saturday, 31 October, 9 am – 3 pm  
Closing Date for registration: 23 October

This course will explore the genuine ways fathers (and significant males in students’ lives) can be involved in schools and the positive effects these can have on both fathers and boys. Practical strategies to use with different school cultures will be explored and these strategies and resources will be linked to research on boys and fathers conducted by Steve Biddulph and Dr Richard Fletcher. Teachers will leave having accumulated a bank of ideas and accompanying resources ready to involve fathers in schools genuinely – beyond inviting fathers to a BBQ or working bee!

The course will unpack what mentors are and how they can be used with boys in schools. Essential components of a successful mentoring program will be examined and ideas will be explored. Results of a four year NRL Rugby League Mentoring Reading Program with Year 3 and 5 boys will be shared as inspiration.

Package cost for attendance to all seminars and workshops: $ 550.00 (Closing date for package registration: 18 September)  
All costs are inclusive of GST.