

## Children with executive functioning difficulties: how can an OT make a difference?

Thursday 10 August 2017, 9am – 4:30pm

Robin Hood Hotel Function Room, 315 Portrush Rd Norwood

School is a context in which children learn how to be a strategic learner, a treasured friend, a valued community member, a creative performer, and an efficient worker. Being a school student comprises many roles which can be challenged by the academic and social expectations of teachers and classmates. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, students need to learn how to be processors of information, rather than reciters of facts. For some, the classroom can be too hard work and the playground can be a lonely or unhappy place.

Using an occupational performance framework, this workshop will outline executive functioning abilities which support readiness for learning and present strategies to promote children's engagement in learning across academic and social domains.

The workshop will provide a pathway for occupational therapists to systematically address the needs of children who have difficulty with abilities such as staying focused on a task without being distracted, remembering and following instructions, remembering familiar routines, planning and self organising for both structured and unstructured activities, joining in a conversation, problem solving, coping when someone says 'no', managing time and completing tasks within expected time frames, using best strategy to self regulate exploding feelings.

### Learning Objectives & Outcomes

At the end of this workshop, participants will have increased knowledge to:

- Identify breakdown points of a child's occupational performance as a consequence of executive functioning difficulties
- Apply effective strategies to support a child's increased engagement in learning within academic and social domains
- Collaborate in a meaningful and relevant way with teachers and parents

The workshop will explore the role of occupational therapists when working collaboratively with teachers in a school setting through analysing the breakdown points of occupational performance for students who experience a difficulty with learning.

### WORKSHOP DETAILS

#### Fees

Member: **\$280**

Student: **\$170**

Non Member: **\$450**

#### Registration Closes:

Thursday 3 August 2017

#### Workshop Hours

9.00am to 4:30pm

Registration opens at 8.30am

**CPD Hours** By attending all of this CPD event, members will be able to claim **6 hours (per day)** towards their CPD requirements. Members will automatically have their points recorded on their PD Tracker.

**Disclaimer:** All information is correct at the time of publication. OTA SA Div. reserves the right to alter or delete items from the CPD calendar as circumstances dictate, and takes no responsibility for any errors, omissions and changes.

### About the Presenter – Dr Susan Lowe

Dr Susan Lowe, occupational therapist, is the owner of Skills for Kids which employs 11 occupational therapists and 5 speech language pathologists. This practice works with children and adolescents experiencing learning, intellectual, social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. Susan is also Visiting Professor within the Faculty of Occupational Therapy at the Singapore Institute of Technology. Susan is co-author with Dr Chris Chapparo of the Perceive, Recall, Plan and Perform Teacher and Parent Questionnaires, valid and reliable tools which explore and guide children's functional participation in everyday school and home routines through an information processing lens. Susan is committed to effective partnerships with teachers and parents, has a continuing interest in cognitive task analysis and strategy use for functional performance and is focused on clinical reasoning within mentoring and professional supervision relationships. Susan is particularly interested in enabling therapists to deliver effective and relevant services using an occupational framework within school contexts.