



## giftEDnz Early Years

We are excited to inform you that a giftEDnz Early Years subcommittee has been established to promote the core goals of giftEDnz for children from birth to 8 years of age. This support has been made possible via the generosity of the Todd Foundation and also the advocacy of services for our young gifted from within giftEDnz.

*Iti noa ana, he pito mata. "With care, a small kumara will produce a harvest"*

We have chosen to work from birth to 8 years to promote the needs of children in early childhood and to support the needs of young gifted children as they transition into primary school and in the first three years of school. We aim to encourage professionals working with these children to share their ideas and experiences through a range of networking possibilities.

## GOALS

The goal of the Early Years special interest group is to ensure 'Bright Futures' for our young gifted children in New Zealand by networking with educators in these fields to share their journeys and to work together to support positive development outcomes.

giftEDnz goals will be promoted with an emphasis on Early Years services;

- To advocate for equitable educational opportunities for Early Years children
- To enhance the profile of gifted and talented education in the Early Years
- To create an Early Years professional community for networking, supporting and learning
- To encourage the pursuit and sharing of best practices in Early Years gifted and talented education.
- To provide liaison with international organizations and other national associations for Early Years gifted and talented education.

## SUBCOMMITTEE

**Deb Clark** is Principal of the Gifted Kids Programme. Deb is the key communication contact for the Early Years sub-committee. [giftednz@gmail.com](mailto:giftednz@gmail.com)

**Jo Dean** is a graduate of Massey's Early Years (birth to 8) teaching degree, completing Honours. She is working at Milverton Kindergarten in Palmerston North.

**Sue Breen** coordinates the Small Poppies programme for young gifted children and teaches in Auckland.

**Valerie Margrain** teaches in the Early Years (birth to 8) degree and postgraduate Education programmes at Massey University. She has worked as a primary school teacher and Playcentre supervisor.