



## REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

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### PLAY MATTERS - THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAY

Presented by Dr Dee O'Connor

27th August: NSW Teachers Federation, SYDNEY

9.30am to 3.30pm

Dr Dee O'Connor is an Associate Professor of Education at the University of Notre Dame, Australia – specialising in Early Childhood Education. Dee holds over 25 years of experience in the field within a variety of positions across early childhood practice, policy and academia.

Professor O'Connor's research relates to play, learning environments, creativity and child development through education. Dee is a published author and regularly speaks at national and international conferences.

Dee will discuss the importance of child-initiated and self-directed play experiences, and how educators can optimise young children's learning through a play-based pedagogy. In this session we will:

- Explore the theory of play and why play is fundamental for education in the early primary years
- Discuss the latest neuroscientific breakthroughs and how this impacts our understandings of young children's development.

- Discover innovative ways to add value to the teaching of literacy, numeracy, STEM and life skills.
- Provide strategies for children to explore learning through investigations which link to intentional teaching of all curricular areas.

This session also includes an introductory presentation by our education consultant on Play-Based Learning through Walker Learning pedagogy.

A copy of the educator text "Play Matters" – investigative learning for preschool to grade 2" authored by Kathy Walker (ACER Press) will be included in this session. (RRP \$55)

Start Time: 9.30am to 3.30pm  
Morning Tea & Lunch are Provided

*This Event will fill quickly, please book early to avoid disappointment.*



*Completing Play Matters - The Importance of Play will contribute 5 hours of NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) Registered PD addressing 6.2.2 from the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers towards maintaining Proficient Teacher Accreditation in NSW.*

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