

# 2017 Children's Services Professional Learning Program

## Play-based learning and intentional teaching: forever different?

### Presenter: Professor Susan Edwards

Play-based learning is a cornerstone of early childhood education provision. Play provides opportunities for young children to explore ideas, experiment with materials and express new understandings. International and national research highlights the value of sustained and reflective interactions between children and educators in promoting children's learning.

Overseas, the movement towards quality play-based pedagogy reflects debate and policy initiatives captured by the notion of intentional teaching. In Australia, the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) makes explicit reference to intentional teaching. Intentional teaching arguably engages educators and children in shared thinking and problem solving to build young children's learning outcomes. However, the pedagogical relationship between play-based learning and intentional teaching remains difficult to conceptualise. This is because the value placed on the exploratory potential of play-based learning can appear to be at odds with the role of intentional teaching in promoting knowledge development.



This presentation reaches beyond binary constructs of play and intentional teaching, and invites consideration of a new Pedagogical Play-framework for inspiring pedagogical and curriculum innovation in the early years.

#### Learning outcomes:

- Understand the relationship between open-ended play and intentional teaching
- Consider the role of the Pedagogical Play-framework in play-based learning with young children



**Professor Susan Edwards** is the Director of the Early Childhood Futures research concentration in the Learning Sciences Institute of Australia (LSIA), Australian Catholic University. Professor Edwards commenced her career in early childhood education in Melbourne over 20 yrs ago beginning as a junior ballet school teacher before moving into kindergarten teaching, tertiary education and research. Susan is committed to realising early learning opportunities for young children & their families.

**Suitable for:** Educators from early childhood services  
**Date:** Tuesday 27 June  
**Time:** 7pm to 9pm  
**Venue:** Karralyka (see over for venue details)  
**Cost:** \$35

Bookings essential. Register online at: [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/CSTraining.aspx](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/CSTraining.aspx)

For more information please contact Cathie Wills  
on 9294 5740 or email: [childrens.services.events@maroondah.vic.gov.au](mailto:childrens.services.events@maroondah.vic.gov.au)

Please arrive at 6.45pm to allow time to park, sign in & collect your certificate

**Karralyka**  
Mines Rd  
Ringwood  
(Mel ref: 50:A7)

