

_____ @ \$550 / person (2017 rate)
Includes: Course materials, lunch, and refreshments.

Who Should Attend?

Speech & Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, other allied health professionals including Child Psychologists, Social Workers, Educators, Medical Professionals, Child Health Nurses, and others working in the field of child development, early intervention and child care.

- Cancellations must be in writing and postmarked 15 days prior to start date. Refunds will be given less \$50 handling fee).
- Cancellations within 15 days of event start date are subject to a 50% deduction in refund.
- No refund will be given for cancellations less than 48 hours before the start of the event.



Email: administration@sensoryconnections.com.au
www.sensoryconnections.com.au

Sensory Connections Presents: **The Action Is In The Interaction**

DIR / Floortime

The Developmental, Individual Difference & Relationship Based Model

Introductory Series

Stage One



Sensory Connections presents this training annually in Australia. This two day seminar is suitable for those who are working with children with autistic spectrum disorders, communication & learning difficulties, regulatory disorders & developmental delays.

Trainers: Mari Caulfield, Speech and Language Pathologist & Kathy Walmsley, Occupational Therapist

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The **D**evelopmental **I**ndividual difference, & **R**elationship Based® model (DIR ®) is an evidence based framework developed by Stanley Greenspan and Serena Wieder to assist clinicians, parents & educators conduct a comprehensive assessment and develop an intervention program tailored to the unique challenges and strengths of the child. This developmental relationship based approach carefully considers the impact of the unique individual neurobiological profile of the child and of caregiver patterns on development across functional domains. Through tailoring interactions, DIR promotes healthy foundations for overall social, emotional, language & intellectual functioning. Therapeutically guided interaction with children in play and learning situations is the means of moving children up the developmental ladder.

This stage one training offers a unique opportunity to experience an integrated approach to the child's sensory processing capacities, emotional development & developmental language acquisition. Participants will gain an understanding of relationship-based intervention and will learn therapeutic "tools" to guide their practice in the clinic, home and school based settings. They will leave with an introductory knowledge of this model and its relevance to their daily practice with children.

The DIR model provided me with a whole new way of working with children & families. Kathy and Mari have an enormous amount of experience and generate such positive energy and warmth as they take you through the components of the model and the Floortime™ approach."
Training Participant

Video case examples will be used extensively in this training to illustrate working with children in a variety of environments & to illustrate progress made over time. The relationship between affect, sensory processing & communication will be explored from an occupational therapy & speech & language perspective. Insights from families using this therapeutic approach will be presented.

The first two days provide foundational training and are necessary pre requisites prior to registration in Stage Two of this workshop series.

Day One Registration will be 08:30 am – 09:00 am, on first day.
Program will run from 09:00 am – 5.00 pm, each day.

Attending this training will enable you to:

- 1. Identify the six primary functional emotional developmental levels.**
- 2. Understand the concept of individual differences in: sensory processing, language functioning, motor planning and sequencing in relation to the DIR model.**
- 3. Work within a transdisciplinary context with colleagues, having participant and their family at the centre.**
- 4. Understand how interactive relationships with caregivers can impact mastery of higher levels of functional emotional development.**
- 5. Formulate a functional assessment and translate the profile of the child into a developmentally based intervention program.**
- 6. Identify Floortime strategies that can be used within clinics, home or school.**
- 7. Understand the evidence base for developmental relationship based interventions.**

Day 1 Outline:

Introduction to DIR, Basic Principles, Critical features of Functional Emotional Developmental Levels One to Six, Individual differences from a DIR perspective.

Day 2 Outline:

Communication & language perspectives from a DIR perspective. Key Principles and practice explored working with children with range of profiles. Intervention through the functional emotional developmental levels.



Kathy Walmsley and Mari Caulfield have co presented these trainings together biannually since 2008 in Australia, Ireland and internationally. They bring a wealth of practical experience as well as clinical knowledge and expertise to their teaching style.

Mari has worked in Ireland for 38 years as a speech and language pathologist in a variety of clinical and management roles which include Health Authorities, child education centre's, special schools and autism specific classes. Mari has undertaken extensive training over the years including specific credentials in Montessori, Integrated Psychotherapy, Sensory Integration, PROMPT, and the Hanen approach. She lives and works in County Galway in Ireland in an independent speech and language therapy practice. Mari is the founder of "Look into My Eyes" an innovative Floortime™ parents teaching parents training initiative held annually in the West of Ireland. This is Mari's 9th teaching trip to train with Kathy in Australia. <http://www.maricaulfield.com>

Kathy has worked as an Occupational Therapist for 33 years in Australia & abroad, in a variety of settings and occupational therapy roles. She is the founder of **Sensory Connections** in Perth. Kathy has a special interest in supporting families who have children with complex neurodevelopmental and sensory processing challenges. She has undertaken extensive professional training in the field of early intervention, occupational therapy, infant mental health, and developmental disorders over the years. <http://sensoryconnections.com.au/ourstaff>

Mari and Kathy share a common passion for their clinical and teaching work. Participants will leave this training inspired, taking with them specific practical ideas and strategies to bring back to the home, clinic, or school.