

Talk for Writing Courses Offered by DSF

TfW Primary

This two day workshop offers comprehensive training in the TfW approach. It is suitable for professionals who work with Primary School aged students and is viewed as essential knowledge for any teacher keen to deliver TfW in the classroom.

TfW Early Years

This one day workshop has been designed specifically for professionals who work with Kindergarten and Pre-Primary (Foundation) aged children.

TfW Secondary

This one day workshop provides secondary teachers with the skills to apply the principles of the Talk for Writing approach when teaching in their curriculum area.

TfW Master Classes

These workshops provide an opportunity for teachers using TfW (and who have completed the initial training) to develop their knowledge and skills further. The training is provided by visiting consultants and DSF TfW trainers.

TfW as a Tier 3 intervention

This training has been designed specifically for specialist literacy teachers, speech pathologists and others providing individual or small group intervention to students struggling with writing and reading comprehension.

School Visits

DSF TfW trainers provide ongoing consultation and mentoring onsite at schools to ensure successful implementation of the approach.

"Before we started Talk for Writing, I used to hear, 'I don't know what to write about.' That's all you'd hear, especially from the boys. - You don't hear that anymore at this school."

(Carla Humphrey, TfW Literacy Leader and Classroom Teacher, Yanchep Beach Primary School)

Talk for Writing at DSF

The Talk for Writing team at DSF currently provides the only approved TfW training in Australia. All courses have been developed with the support and guidance of TfW (UK) and can be delivered to schools in all Australian states and territories. DSF has provided training to over 3000 teachers, as well as overseas principals and speech pathologists - as well as on-site training to more than 100 schools. The feedback from schools has been overwhelmingly positive with teachers reporting significantly improved outcomes and an immediate lift in student engagement.



TalkforWriting

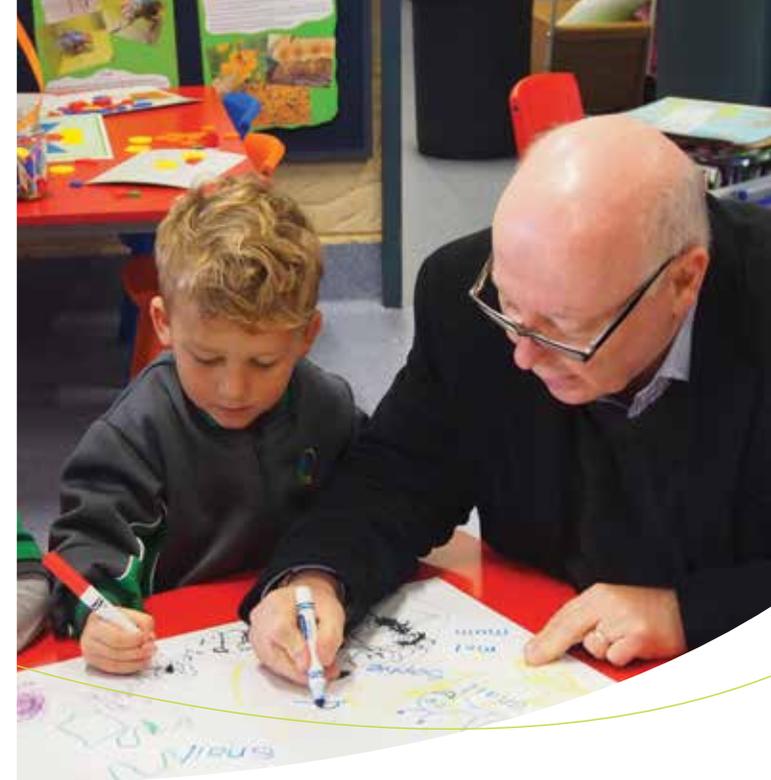
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Transforming students into outstanding readers and writers



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What is Talk for Writing?

TfW is a powerful approach used to teach both **fiction** and **non-fiction** writing to students of all ages. It was developed by educator and writer, Pie Corbett, with support from Julia Strong. TfW has achieved excellent outcomes for many years in the United Kingdom, and more recently in Australia.

TfW is a process that draws together known practices for effective teaching into a comprehensive, well-constructed approach. TfW aims to develop students' reading comprehension and writing skills by first targeting their oral language skills, based on the understanding that,

"children can't write sentences unless they can say them, and they can't say a sentence unless they've heard it a lot!" (Pie Corbett).

There are three key stages to the TfW process: Imitate, Innovate and Independent Application.

- 1 Imitate:** Teachers provide a model of the language patterns students need to use, and students internalise these language patterns through oral rehearsal of a model story or text.
- 2 Innovate:** Students are then supported to innovate a text or story they know well, so that they have practice applying their written language skills in context.
- 3 Independent Application:** Finally, students apply their writing skills with greater independence, by using what they have learned to invent a new story or non-fiction text.

Meet the Talk for Writing team at DSF

Peta Collins

Peta is an educational and developmental psychologist, a qualified teacher and an experienced DSF Talk for Writing trainer. She has been closely involved in the development of DSF's Talk for Writing workshops, at both primary and secondary level, and has benefitted from the invaluable support and expertise of Pie Corbett, Dean Thompson and Maria Richards since the introduction of TfW to Australia. Peta also uses the Talk for Writing approach in individual and small-group tuition with students of all ages who are experiencing literacy learning difficulties.



Emily Jackson

Emily has a background in speech pathology and has been a key member of the Talk for Writing team at DSF for many years. She is an experienced trainer, and assisted in the development of DSF's current Talk for Writing training courses. She works with schools on an ongoing basis to implement and embed Talk for Writing in their everyday teaching practice. Emily is also experienced in using Talk for Writing in the classroom across the primary school years, and in delivering the approach in a remedial setting.



Susie Hillard

Susie is a Primary and Secondary trained teacher, specialising in English and Social Sciences. She has worked in schools in both England and Australia, assisting to guide the implementation of Talk for Writing. Susie now works as a literacy specialist at DSF, providing training, consultation and mentoring to teachers, other professionals and schools in Talk for Writing. Susie is passionate about the Talk for Writing approach after seeing the incredible achievements from students in her own classroom and the impact it has on children's reading and writing progress at all levels.



Courtney McNally

Courtney is a DSF registered psychologist and Talk for Writing trainer with experience working in a number of educational settings. She is a strong advocate of TfW and values the capacity it has to engage and support students of all ages and ability levels. Since joining the DSF training team, Courtney has delivered TfW workshops across the state as well as on-site at DSF. She has witnessed the impact of TfW in school settings, as well as first hand through using the TfW approach in small-group tuition.



Sarah Grunwald

Sarah trained as both a speech pathologist and a primary school teacher. She is dedicated to using high-quality evidence-based programs to teach literacy skills and has been impressed by the outstanding achievements of students attending Talk for Writing schools. Sarah is experienced in planning and delivering Talk for Writing in small group and individual settings, for students with literacy learning difficulties, language impairments and developmental disabilities. In addition, Sarah regularly delivers comprehensive training in Talk for Writing in schools across Perth.



The DSF TfW team is supported by:

Carla Humphrey

Carla is a teacher at Yanchep Beach Primary School, one of the first schools in WA to introduce Talk for Writing as a whole-school approach. She has experience in Pre-Primary to Year 7, and has also worked with students who have English as a Second Language. Carla has a key role as a Talk for Writing leader in her school, guiding the coordination, planning and implementation of the program. Carla is passionate about Talk for Writing and is enthusiastic about the impact it has on classroom teaching and student progress.

Fiona Blakie

Fiona is a teacher at Yanchep Beach Primary School. She has experience teaching from Kindergarten to Year 3 and has also worked with students who have a variety of additional learning needs, including speech and language delays. Fiona is passionate about early intervention and implementing effective programs in the classroom, including Talk for Writing, that have been found to assist students to achieve success.