Word Aware: teaching vocabulary in the early years

Many children begin school without the vocabulary required to access learning. Unless addressed early, what starts off as a word gap becomes a gulf in overall academic achievement.

Well developed vocabulary is required to:
• Understand maths and science concepts
• Develop the foundations for reading
• Succeed academically and in life

Word Aware is a structured whole school approach to promote the vocabulary development of all children. Focussed on whole class learning, the approach is of particular value for those who start at a disadvantage - including children with Special Educational Needs and those who speak English as an additional language.

This approach is full of practical and inspiring ideas that can be easily applied by busy Early Years practitioners to develop both spoken and written vocabulary. Course participants will have resources and ideas to apply immediately. **This course is most suitable to practitioners working in Kindy and Pre-Primary** but is open to all interested professionals.

Stephen has worked as a Speech and Language Therapist for almost 30 years. He initially trained in Australia and until recently he worked as a Speech and Language Therapist Service Manager in Hackney in London, but is now working as a freelance trainer and author. He is particularly interested in how whole class practice can include children with developmental language disorder. Stephen has co-authored (with Anna Branagan) ‘Word Aware’ (2013), ‘Word Aware 2’ (2017) and ‘Language for Thinking’ (2nd edition, 2017). Since 2016 Stephen has been the Chair of NAPLIC, the association for professionals supporting language in the UK. www.naplic.org.uk

Stephen is active on Twitter via @WordAware

**Presenter:** Stephen Parsons

**Where:** DSF Literacy Services
10 Broome Street
South Perth
(off Douglas Avenue)

**Date:** Monday 26 March 2018
**Time:** 9.00am to 3.30pm
**Code:** 118AJ

To register please go to dsf.net.au/events.

This workshop meets the following professional standards for teachers:

1.1, 1.2, 13., 2.1, 2.3, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 4.1, 4.2, 7.3