



MONTESSORI
AUSTRALIA
FOUNDATION

MONTESSORI BUSINESS MANAGERS FORUM



Wednesday, 9 September 2015
9:00am - 5:00pm
Crowne Plaza Cooee Beach, NSW

BUSINESS MANAGERS FORUM SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2015

8:30am – 9:00am

Registration

9:00am – 9:30am

Welcome, Introductions and Update

Christine Harrison, Managing Director, MISA

Karen Bennetts, Senior Consultant, MISA

9:30am – 11:15am

Building a World Class Montessori School

Challenges & Successes: From Vision to Reality

Grant Vayro and Chiray Fitton, Montessori International College

In January 2015 the Montessori International College completed its dream to become an international benchmark for quality Montessori education, engaging with the natural environment and the local community. After many years of planning, financial ups and downs and the challenges of finding a suitable site, MIC has built an ecologically sustainable and financially viable school for children from 0-18 at Forest Glen on Queensland's Sunshine Coast. The school's Business Manager, Grant Vayro and Principal, Chiray Fitton will outline the challenges and successes of planning, building and now managing this school to respond to the ecological strengths and constraints of the site.

11:15am – 11:30am

Morning Tea

11:30am – 12:30pm

School Funding Update

Michael Carr, Deputy Executive Director, AISNSW

Although funding for independent schools is set until the end of 2017, it is possible to look at what might happen after this time. Michael will also include discussion on other financial drivers.

12:30pm – 1:30pm

Lunch

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Financial Risks for Small Schools

David Buley, Chief Financial Officer, AISNSW

The financial implications and risks are much higher for small independent schools such as Montessori schools, and are often not taken into account by boards. David Buley spends a considerable amount of time undertaking financial reviews for schools and will explore some of the major risks.

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Afternoon Tea

3:30pm – 4:30pm

The Business of Montessori: What Every Business Manager should know about Managing the Finances in a Montessori school

Emma Cassin, Business Manager, Inner Sydney Montessori School

What are the unique aspects of managing the financial affairs in a Montessori School? Enrolments, multi-age classes and budgeting are just some of the possible challenges to finances. Emma will explore all areas and there will be plenty of time for discussion.

4:30pm – 5:00pm

Discussion and Close

BUSINESS MANAGERS FORUM

SPEAKERS



KAREN BENNETTS has been involved in the Australian Montessori community for over 20 years. She was the founding principal of a Montessori school for about ten years and taught 6-12 children for eight years. Karen has the AMI 3-6 Diploma as well as two Montessori Diplomas covering the early childhood and primary years from MWEL. Karen is currently completing her PhD in Montessori Leadership at Monash University. She has three children who all attended Montessori programs. When not studying, Karen is working to develop MAF's new Montessori Independent Schools division.



DAVID BULEY is currently the CFO of the Association of Independent Schools of New South Wales and Director of the Capital Grants Programme. He is a Board and investment committee member of the \$7bn industry super fund, NGS Super, which caters for over 100,000 members. He's a Fellow of CPA Australia, has an MBA, a Masters of Applied Finance and Investment, and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors programme. His career started at Deloitte and his subsequent experience spans many types of industries and companies. He researches widely on current and emerging issues relevant to independent schools and has undertaken courses at institutions such as Wharton, Columbia, UC Berkeley, and MIT on topics including Data and Analytics, Business Model Innovation, Strategy, Design Thinking, Investments and Finance. He regularly presents at NFP and Accounting conferences in the USA and in Australia on strategy, innovation and accounting related topics.



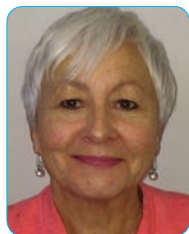
MICHAEL CARR holds Masters Degrees in Education, Commerce and Labour Law. He has extensive experience within the school environment both as a teacher of Mathematics and as Principal of three large Sydney High Schools. Michael currently holds the position of Deputy Executive Director at the Association of Independent Schools of New South Wales (AISNSW). He is also the Director of Governance and School Reviews. He has previously been Director of Business Services and Director of Industrial Relations. Michael represents the Independent Schools Council of Australia (ISCA) on a number of national committees.



EMMA CASSIN is the Business Manager at Inner Sydney Montessori School, one of Australia's largest Montessori schools. She has held this position for over five years. She oversees the key functions of Compliance and Operations across the school including Human Resources, Employment Relations, Training and Development, Finances and Property. In this role she provides strategic direction for these key areas, ensuring their seamless integration as an effective partner to the academic functions within the school.



CHIRAY FITTON is Principal at Montessori International College located on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland. Most of her practice in education has been within the independent schools sector in NSW and QLD. Recently, Chiray was one of only 6 principals in Qld to be selected to participate in a leadership programme specifically designed for innovative principals.



CHRISTINE HARRISON has been involved in Montessori education since 1985 and was Principal of the Canberra Montessori School, one of the largest Montessori schools in Australia, for over ten years. She is the founding Chair of the Montessori Australia Foundation and was Chair of the Association of Independent Schools in the ACT and on the Board of the Independent Schools Council of Australia. Christine has been involved in policy development, compliance, student care, curriculum development and educational leadership in schools and has a background in mediation, conflict resolution, adult education and a particular interest in governance in community organisations. Christine is a senior consultant for the Montessori Australia Foundation.



GRANT VAYRO holds a Bachelor of Business with a Major in Accountancy, is a qualified Chartered Accountant, obtained a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance as well as most recently a Graduate Diploma in Education (also holding Teacher Registration in Queensland). Grant's working experience spans over 25 years including his time in Professional Practise with National Accounting firms, as well as commercial work within the Water infrastructure, Information Management and the Property Management industries. Since 2004, Grant has worked in senior financial roles within independent schools. He has been with Montessori International College in an advisory capacity since 2009 and a full time Business Manager role since 2013.

BUSINESS MANAGERS FORUM VENUE AND REGISTRATION



With Sydney's most spectacular beaches at your doorstep and the city centre just a short drive away, guests at Crowne Plaza Coogee Beach enjoy the best of both worlds. Wake up in your spacious guestroom and take in magnificent, uninterrupted ocean views. Many rooms feature spacious balconies with stunning ocean views. Take advantage of their state of the art hotel facilities including acclaimed onsite restaurants and bars, fully equipped gym, heated pool, tennis court and business centre. Coogee is a trendy beachside suburb in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, close to the city, airport and a buzzing strip of cafés, restaurants and shops. Crowne Plaza Coogee Beach, 242 Arden Street, Coogee NSW 2034

REGISTER online at montessori.org.au or fill in and return the form below

RATES	SUBSCRIBERS*	NON-SUBSCRIBERS
<input type="checkbox"/> Montessori Business Managers Forum	\$260	\$325

*Discounted rates for Montessori Australia Foundation School/Centre Subscriber staff.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 2 SEPTEMBER 2015

Name: _____

School: _____

Position: _____

Home Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone – Home: _____

Phone – Mobile: _____

Phone – Work: _____

Email: _____

Please indicate if you have special dietary requirements:

Vegetarian Gluten Free Other _____

Cheques payable to the Montessori Australia Foundation.

ABN: 46 104 887 309

Payment Method: Cheque Or: Invoice School

Or charge my: Visa Card Mastercard

Cardholder's Name: _____

Card N°: _____

Signature: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Please see our website for our cancellation and refund policy.

Phone: 02 9986 2282 Fax: 02 9986 2281

Email: events@montessori.org.au

Register online or send registration form to:

Montessori Australia Foundation, 3 Myoora Rd Terrey Hills NSW 2084