

### **Differentiation begins with a dot**

*Just make a mark and see where it takes you!*

Today's inescapable demand for 'Differentiation' is a significant pressure on many teachers. Such stress can result in some teachers ignoring this need for transformation, while many others risk burnout as they strive to become effective differentiated instructors. Therefore teachers need a long-term professional development program around 'Differentiation' where they acquire the essential understanding, knowledge, skills and tools. Such supportive ongoing PD enables teachers to work smarter, happier and more professionally in meeting the needs of all their students.

For St Paul's Lutheran Primary School, Caboolture, the response to increasingly 'wise up' with Differentiation coincided with the establishment of the school's inaugural gifted and talented program at the start of 2012.

This workshop provides insight into, and hand-on experience with the Differentiation professional development provided at St Paul's: Teacher education experiences through which teachers develop towards effectively and efficiently differentiating, not only for identified gifted and talented students, but for all students in the regular classroom.

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Christine began her teaching career immersed in the developmental approach – 'Differentiation' in its purest form. The joy of teaching in this context inspired a commitment to the differentiation philosophy which has guided Christine's teaching for 25 years. Christine has had a diverse teaching background in Australia, NZ and UK, including primary and secondary schools, and university. In various classroom teacher, specialist, and leadership roles, Christine's career spans the Lutheran, Anglican, Uniting and Grammar school systems, and also state education sectors. Today Christine works in Learning Enrichment at St Paul's Lutheran Primary School (Qld), coordinates LEQ's Gifted Education network and continues to lead professional development workshops in 'Differentiation'.