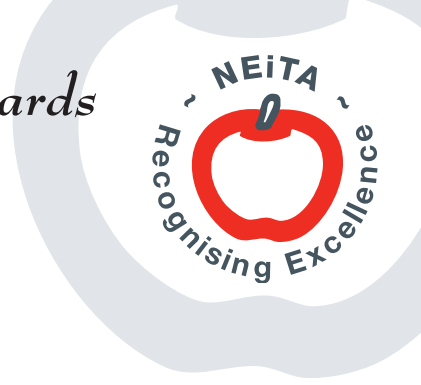


NEiTA 2009 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards

State and Territory Award Recipient



Anne-Louise Gilbert

Diploma of Teaching (Early Childhood), Bachelor of Education
Eagle Junction State School, Clayfield, Queensland
Nominated by: School parents

Position: Year coordinator • Category: Early Childhood • Level taught: Prep • Years teaching: 25 years • Years at this school: 20 years • School type: Government • Town/Suburb: Clayfield • State: Queensland • Postcode: 4011

Why teaching?

My mother was a family day care provider. I had the wonderful opportunity to observe the rapport she developed with the children in her care. The safe, warm and stimulating learning environment she created without any formal training inspired me to work with young children. She genuinely made a difference in the lives of those children and I believe I make a difference.

Teaching has always been and remains a stimulating, diverse experience and I expect it always will. I have been teaching for 25 years and my first day only seems like yesterday. During that time I have never had a boring day or wished my day would go faster and for that reason I am truly fortunate.

Creating a warm, personalised and caring start to school life

With more than 25 years of teaching experience, Anne-Louise Gilbert knows how to create a prep classroom environment that is safe, nurturing, and respectful. She collects information and data about each child's interests and developmental needs and tailors her lessons to match their abilities. In this manner, every child is encouraged to feel involved and valued.

Anne-Louise has created a learning program based on mutual respect and responsibility between teacher, pupils and parents. Parents are encouraged to become involved in their child's educational journey, while the children enjoy a classroom environment that is simultaneously vibrant and orderly. Each student is made to feel special, with every child receiving a personalised Christmas card from Anne-Louise prior to commencing their school year, and then another personal letter during the school holidays.

Several prep students with behavioural problems or medical conditions such as autism or Down syndrome have successfully been integrated into the classroom using her technique of getting to know each individual and encouraging their strengths and confidences.

Anne-Louise is also an avid supporter of the school's 'buddy system' with several of her previous students returning to help out in her prep classroom. She actively mentors new teachers, as well as work experience students.

Many of the prep parents refer to Anne-Louise as a local 'legend' and her popularity is evident in the fact that some parents line up from 4 am on enrolment day to ensure their children get a place in Anne-Louise's ever popular class.

Contact details:

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