



**Annual Report from the Board of
SPELD New Zealand Incorporated | Te Rōpū Whakaoho Matauranga
For the year ending 31 March 2023
Incorporating the Reports of the Board, the Executive and Financial Statements**

Values of SPELD New Zealand Inc

Respect

We treat all people with respect.

Equity

We treat all people fairly.

Integrity

We act with honesty and good intent.

Empowerment

We empower those with SLD to reach their potential.

Professionalism

We take personal responsibility for our professional practice.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

SPELD New Zealand:

- honours the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- seeks to be a good Tiriti partner
- seeks to apply in our practice, the elements of te whare tapa whā/the four sides of wellbeing (tapa tinana: physical, tapa hinengaro: mental, tapa whanau: family and tapa wairua: spiritual).



The Annual Reports are presented under our four Strategic Goals.

Strategic Goal 1: Expertise and Leadership

To be recognised as the leading provider of services within the field of Specific Learning Disabilities and to remain current on all aspects of SLD.

The Board, our Kaitiaki, acts as the guardian of SPELD NZ's assets both tangible and intangible. The Board's role is to ensure that we meet the objects of the Constitution and manage our assets to maintain and grow a sustainable organisation. These 'assets' include our Kaitiaki, our Professional Standards Committee, professionals, our staff/Kaimahi and volunteers. We are proud to have the opportunity of the AGM to report on the accomplishments of the organisation.

Highlights of the year:

A successful NZQA External Evaluation and Review, retaining our Category 1 provider status with excellence in all areas.

Increased favourable press coverage in print and television, and social media throughout the financial year.

Beginning monthly Board discussions on key requirements for our new constitution, to be drafted for consultation in 2023-4.

Significant Professional Standards and Training achievements:

- Revision of The Guide to Assessment and Lesson Planning and related Level 5 course material
- Beginning revision of the Level 5 course material for re-application to NZQA in October 2023
- Providing a guide on recognised teaching programmes
- Online meetings to provide guidance for probationary teachers, mentors, and appraisers
- One-on-one coaching for Probationary Teachers

Our Courses/Programmes

- L5 NZ Certificate in Teaching Individuals with Specific Learning Disabilities: Of the 26 candidates enrolled in the 2022 programme, 25 graduated with 18 becoming probationary teachers by financial year's end. 1 transferred to the 2023 programme. For the 2022 intake we interviewed nearly 70 potential candidates for the 26 places available.
- L5 NZ Certificate in Teaching Individuals with Specific Learning Disabilities: We have 31 candidates enrolled in the 2023 programme
- Two new L5 Kaiārahi in training (adding to 2 in training from previous year) will increase our capacity to enrol more L5 candidates
- 21 Level 3 Introduction to SLD (ISLD) courses hosted in the 2022 calendar year, in 6 locations, and 7 delivered online. 248 attended. 1 teacher attending enrolled for 2023 assessor training and 1 for the 2023 Level 5 programme

- We retired our Level 3 Introduction to SLD course from NZQA, giving us the freedom to deliver online, and make programme changes without application to NZQA
- Ongoing review of Introduction to SLD, and Level 5 course material
- We enrolled 8 enrolled in 2022 Assessor training with 6 progressing to the practicum. 7 are enrolled in the 2023 assessor training
- 42 teachers and teacher aides from Te Kura (Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu) enrolled on ISLD courses, 84 on the Kōwae Ako, and 1 teacher each enrolled on assessor training and Level 5
- We review our pastoral care practices to ensure compliance with NZQA
- We have begun planning of a webinar targeted at educators of the early learning years.

Strategic Goal 2: Awareness

To raise awareness and understanding of the impact of SLD within society and to raise awareness of SPELD NZ and its services.

Meeting this strategic goal was achieved by:

- Advertising and or articles in Primary Health & Wellbeing Directory, Kidslink, DFNZ website, NZ Herald (several articles) & Newsroom
- Interviews by TVNZ
- Producing two colourful and inspirational editions of The Record magazine. Thanks to all who have contributed.
- Keeping our Facebook page regularly updated: growing our followers from 5595 to 6296 followers. Our biggest engagements:
 - A link to our Record magazine story on the *Beginner's Guide to Structured Literacy* reached 8,111 people and had an engagement of 673
 - A story on the newly appointed dyslexic All Black Coach Scott Robertson reached 6,271 and had an engagement of 734
 - An exclusive SPELD NZ interview re the tenacity required by dyslexic Olympic shot putter Tom Walsh reached 6,801 and had an engagement of 346
 - An update on ex SPELD NZ student Tadhg Norgrove, now training to be a psychologist: Reach of 6,421 and engagement of 574
 - Jeremy Drummond interview with Newsroom on the stress experience by families of those with SLD: 5,586 reach and 700 engagement
 - A link to the free movie *Our Dyslexic Children* during Dyslexia Awareness Week: 5030 reach and 495 engagement
 - Other Facebook pages which shared our content: DFNZ (10,000 followers), Dyslexia Support Evidence-based (9,500 followers), Dyslexia Support NZ (4,100 followers), Lifting Literacy Aotearoa (7,200 followers)
- Supporting stakeholders with over 18,130 telephone calls
- Engaging in Dyslexia Awareness Month Facebook activities in October
- Sending training flyers, membership information packs or course information to schools, to local magazines, schools and RTLB clusters
- Numerous conversations with Learning Support Coordinators, teachers, SENCO and Teacher Aides about SPELD NZ services and training
- Supporting RTLB presentation on Dyscalculia at Epsom Girls Grammar School

Strategic Goal 3: Relationships with Stakeholders

To create and maintain strong relationships with stakeholders and to enhance professional collegiality (internal and/or external).

The Executive Officer, Board Chair and other SPELD NZ representatives continue to schedule meetings with stakeholders to develop and maintain strong relationships in the sector.

Activities included:

- Providing support and advice to hundreds of callers seeking advice, including individuals with SLD, parents of those with SLD, classroom teachers, employers, medical health practitioners, librarians, and tertiary students writing papers on SLD, Tertiary providers eg Ecampus NZ, NZ College of Chiropractic
- Providing advice to employers such as Christchurch Hospital on dyslexia-friendly work environments
- Presenting lunchtime workshops to Wellington District Law Society and Kalandra Education Group
- Providing free webinars for parents featuring young adults who have overcome their SLD
- Providing Zoom hosting for LLG collegial support and professional development workshops
- Attending seminars held by NZQA, Ako Aotearoa and Independent Tertiary Education New Zealand
- Launched a comprehensive support package for SPELD NZ families – especially those on waiting lists for a teachers. Includes expert advice, helpful resources and free Zoom webinars on how parents can support their child at home and school.
- Ongoing conversations with Seabrook McKenzie (the other Provider of the Level 5 programme) and providing collegial support
- Engaging with Pillars, a charity helping whanau of prisoners, and enrolling 5 of their staff on ISLD
- Connecting with the librarian at Weymouth Prison Facility to donate surplus resources and training information
- Staff attending cultural capability courses and participating in ITENZ Māori engagement working group
- Collaborating Ministry of Education regarding Inclusive Design Modules
- Giving presentations at Auckland City Libraries 'We Read Auckland'
- Contributed to the Royal Commission's Abuse in Care meetings
- Submitting to Petitions Committee regarding a petition for an inquiry in support of Dyslexia/Neurodiversity
- Connecting with Mike Styles, Sarah Sharp, Amanda Reid (BERL)
- Meeting with Auckland School Wellbeing Liaison from the Kari Centre in Auckland.

Strategic Goal 4: Sustainability

To identify, access and maintain revenue streams, attract new and retain existing SLD professionals and to ensure all legal requirements and organisational responsibilities are met.

In meeting this strategic goal, we have:

- An ongoing cyclic review of our policies, strategic plan, and risk assessment

- Connected with LLG through the reports which are read and discussed by the Board. We value the commitment of the LLG and the strength that they bring to SPELD NZ
- Attracted new professionals into our ranks, by offering subsidies of \$52,900 to 225 recipients: 5 assessor trainees, 21 L5 teacher trainees, 86 teachers enrolled on the ISLD course, and 113 enrolled for the Kōwae Ako
- Provided \$79,283.71 in financial assistance subsidies for Regular members (adults and children). 151 assessments completed, 45 learners received 798 lessons
- Launched a SPELD NZ Give A Little fundraising campaign raising over \$3500
- Sent regular Pānui from Board and PSC, to connect our professionals
- Continued support for Local Liaison Group volunteers to upgrade from manual to digital library systems
- Held workshop for our professionals to encourage online teaching and assessment
- Hosted LLG Zoom meetings
- Created comprehensive e-booklet for new probationary teachers
- Delivered online Kōwae Ako (online learning capsule) and fundraised to subsidise attendance by our professionals
- Filmed a secondary school student's lesson to help teachers (in training and registered) with lesson observations
- Filmed a lesson using decodable readers
- Created three short videos the rewards of working one in one, The impact of SPELD NZ teaching, the value of SPELD NZ mentoring
- Filmed helpful activities for SLD children in ECE environments for upcoming webinar
- Fawelled staff Sue Radcliffe and Sally Neary, and welcomed Andi Wake to assist Julie Connor with Professional registrations
- Facilitated a meeting with author Joy Allcock and receiving free resources shared with our teachers.

Financial Report

Our Year End performance report presented to you today has been registered with the Charities Commission and Public Trust. The report can be found in the Events page of our website and in Ngā Rauemi.

Items of note from our audited accounts:

- 1 Membership numbers have held steady with members increasing by 1 from 1,904 in 2021 to 1,905 in 2022.
- 2 Grant revenue has increased by over 5% from 2021 to 2022. In 2022 SPELD was able to secure a new Grant Provider "Sutherland Self Help Trust" which gave \$36K to SPELD NZ.
- 3 With the financial markets and interest rates recovering since Covid, SPELD NZ's investment revenue including funds held with the bank, has increased by over \$10K.

The Financial Reports (page 9) lists our grant funders. Please note that for accounting purposes this does not include the names of those who made donations however, their names are included in the list of sponsors and supporters below and in each Record magazine.

Sponsors and Supporters

As a not-for-profit, SPELD NZ tries to keep all fees for families as low as possible, to make our services accessible. We receive no government funding. Grants and donations are essential to help cover our operating expenses and ensure the continuation of SPELD NZ's work.

From everyone involved with SPELD NZ, we'd like to express our thanks and appreciation for the grants, donations or other assistance we have received over the past financial year, especially from:

Acorn Foundation, Akarana Community Trust, Aoraki Foundation, Aotearoa Gaming Trust, Auckland Airport Community Trust, Bay of Plenty Community Legacy Fund, Bernard Chambers Charitable Trust, Brendon Jaine Jewellery, Betty Campbell Trust-Wellington City Council, Bruce and Merle McIntosh, Community Organisation Grants Scheme, Community Trust of Mid and South Canterbury, Community Trust of Southland, Community Trust South, David Ellison Charitable Trust, David Hammond, DV Bryant Trust, Eastern and Central Community Trust, Estate Gordon Lindsey Isaacs, Foundation North, Freemasons Lower Hutt Lodge No 299, Frimley Foundation, Four Winds Foundation, George Brown Charitable Trust, Gwen Malden Charitable Trust, Hawkes Bay Charitable Trust, JBS Dudding Charitable Trust, J N Williams Memorial Trust/HB Williams Turanga Trust, Julie Goodyer, Kingston Sedgfield (NZ) Charitable Trust, Kiwanis Club of Christchurch, Lindsay Foundation, The Lion Foundation, Lottery Grants Board, Luci Carter, L W Nelson Charitable Trust, Manchester Trust, Margaret and Huia Clarke Trust, Mary Lloyd SPELD Auckland Trust, Nikau Foundation, One Foundation, Otago Community Trust, Page Trust, Phillip Dallow Dyslexia Trust, Rātā Foundation, Redwood Trust, Riccarton Rotary Youth Trust, Roy Owen Dixey Charitable Trust, Stevenson Village Trust, Sutherland Self-Help Trust, Tauranga City Council Community Grant Fund, TECT, Thomas George Macarthy Trust, Toi Foundation, Vernon Hall Trust Fund W. Duncan Bickley Trust Fund, Wellington Children's Foundation, Wellington Community Trust, West Coast Community Trust, The Winton and Margaret Bear Charitable Trust, Youthtown Trust, and the many others who have given donations or volunteered their time.

Our thanks also to:

- Fellow Board and Committee members
- LLG members who organise meetings, workshops, mentoring, interviews, and libraries
- Our staff, each of whom brings their talents to our small but effective team
- Our auditors William Buck for their support and guidance and their amazing free NFP workshops attended by staff and board from time to time
- Our volunteer librarians and other volunteers who help LLG, Regional and National Offices in various ways
- The children of staff who continue to help with admin 'housekeeping' from time to time
- Jean Roulston who continues to collate the statistical information from new membership applications.