

PHONICS INTERVENTIONS

A SOUNDS-WRITE SYMPOSIUM

Jacinda Vaughan - Sounds-Write AU Showcase

Welcome. I'm Jacinda Vaughan, and I'm a Sounds-Write trainer here in Australia. I'm thrilled to be here today to share with you a little bit about Sounds-Write and some of the great things that are happening here in Australia. At Sounds-Write, our mission is to improve the life chances of children by ensuring that they are proficient readers and writers, and we believe that teachers' knowledge is the key to achieving this mission. We provide top-quality, evidence-informed training for educators to teach reading and spelling effectively. I'd like to share with you about how you can train with Sounds-Write if you're located in Australia or New Zealand. Our training is delivered assuming little or no prior knowledge on the part of the trainees.

It provides trainees with a theoretical overview of the program and its founding principles, a solid understanding of how our alphabetic code is structured and how to teach it, and we model and practice all of the Sounds-Write lessons, taking you through a clear teaching sequence from the very beginning of the code and onwards. We also show you how to teach through errors that you'll encounter in a very kind and gentle way. The training also includes videos of Sounds-Write being taught at whole class, small group, and one-to-one contexts. We give advice and recommendations for decodable readers when you're choosing appropriate texts for your children, and we also give you guidance on planning lessons. Our training course takes place over a six-week period online and runs multiple times a year. At the end of the online course, your trainees will be able to go straight into teaching Sounds-Write. Across Australia, there's also the opportunity to complete the Sounds-Write training as a face-to-face course.

This course runs across four days and is facilitated by a highly experienced Sounds-Write trainer. If you're looking at this option, have a look at the Sounds-Write webpage for courses that are running in your area, or you can contact the trainer and discuss their availability. We're proud to offer comprehensive training packages that allow you to choose the option that best fits your unique needs. These packages integrate training, support, and complementary resources within the one simple training fee. There are no hidden costs. If you're a parent, there is a free course just for you, with lots of free downloadable resources to get you started. If you choose the full Sounds-Write training, you will have free lifetime access to the Sounds-Write Practitioner's Portal, where you can plan lessons, download resources, and access free professional development.

Everybody that completes the training will have access to the Sounds-Write Revisited course 12 months after their training, and you will have access to the free First Steps e-books that are put out by Sounds-Write. If you're a school, it's well worth considering the Schools and Organizations packages. These include additional benefits such as free places for the principal and free places on our master classes. Check out our brand new webpage for home educators. It has some great information and resources for families who are looking to give their children a solid foundation in reading and spelling. Also have a read of the two Australian case studies from home educators. They're really inspirational.

Earlier this year, we announced the new Sounds-Write Accreditation Program. This program recognizes schools that demonstrate commitment to continuously improving their Sounds-Write teaching practice and share the Sounds-Write vision of improving life chances of children by ensuring that they become proficient readers and writers. We are thrilled to congratulate our first accredited Sounds-Write schools in Australia. Schools are being added to this list all the time. To find out more about the benefits of becoming an accredited Sounds-Write school and to locate schools in your area, please visit the Sounds-Write website. We also proudly offer a range of specialist courses for those that have already trained in Sounds-Write and want to deepen their knowledge and understanding of specific topic areas. Trained practitioners can find more information on these courses in the Practitioner Portal in the Professional Development tab.

We have also published a book of case studies in which schools and other practitioners share how they've implemented Sounds-Write in their settings. They share their results and the recommendations for the best implementation of the program. This book can be downloaded for free off the Sounds-Write webpage. Aside from the book, we've also got a collection of case studies on the website called Success Stories page. This showcases how Sounds-Write is used in all the variety of settings to improve student outcomes. Be sure to take a look at the growing case studies here in Australia. Make sure you're signed up for the Phonics Toolkit, the monthly newsletter from Sounds-Write.

Here you will receive regular updates on Sounds-Write news, offers and literacy insights. Be sure to sign up so you don't miss anything Sounds-Write related. If you have any questions, please feel free to connect with me through the Sounds-Write webpage enquiries or email me on the address on the screen. I'm always happy to chat about all things Sounds-Write. I hope to hear from you soon.