

## **Professor Adele Diamond**

Professor of Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, Department of Psychiatry, University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver

Adele Diamond is the Canada Research Chair Professor of Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. She is a member of the Royal Society of Canada and was recently recognized as one of the 15 most influential neuroscientists in the world today. Prof. Diamond is at the forefront of research on 'executive functions' and on the brain's prefrontal cortex on which they depend. Executive functions include 'thinking outside the box' (cognitive flexibility), mentally relating ideas and facts (working memory), and giving considered responses rather than impulsive ones, resisting temptations and staying focused (inhibitory control, including selective attention).

Prof. Diamond has made discoveries that have improved treatment for two different medical disorders and



discoveries that have impacted education, improving the lives of millions of children. Her work has shown that executive functions can be improved at any age, even in the very young. In looking for practical ways to help children develop healthy executive functions, and thus help more children thrive, Prof. Diamond takes a markedly different perspective from mainstream education in hypothesizing that focusing exclusively on training cognitive skills is less efficient, and ultimately less successful, than also addressing students' social, emotional, and physical needs. She shows why besides training the skills of interest, it's important to support those skills by lessening things that impair them (like stress or loneliness) and enhancing things that support them (such as joy and good health).

Adele Diamond was educated at Swarthmore (B.A., Phi Beta Kappa), Harvard (Ph.D.), and Yale Medical School (postdoc). Her many awards include an honorary doctorate (Honoris Causa) from Ben-Gurion University, the Bronfenbrenner Award for Lifetime Contributions to Developmental Psychology in the Service of Science and Society, being named a "Woman of Distinction" by the YWCA, and being named one of the "2000 Outstanding Women of the 20th Century."

## **Professor Pat McGorry**

Executive Director of Orygen, Professor of Youth Mental Health at The University of Melbourne, and a Director of the Board of the National Youth Mental Health Foundation (headspace). Australian of the Year 2010.

Professor Patrick McGorry is the Executive Director of Orygen, Professor of Youth Mental Health at The University of Melbourne, and a Director of the Board of the National Youth Mental Health Foundation (headspace). He is a world-leading researcher in the area of early psychosis and youth mental health, and has a strong interest in promoting the mental health of the homeless, refugees and asylum seekers. His work has played a critical role in the development of safe, effective treatments and innovative research into the needs of young people with



emerging mental disorders, notably psychotic and severe mood disorders. He has also played a major part in the transformational reform of mental health services to better serve the needs of vulnerable young people.

Professor McGorry was a key architect of the headspace model and has been successful in advocating with colleagues for its national expansion. He has successfully advocated for the establishment of a national early psychosis programme based on the Early Psychosis Prevention and Intervention Centre model. He is frequently asked to advise on youth mental health policy both nationally and internationally.

Professor McGorry has published extensively in the specialist literature, and serves as Editor-in-Chief of Early Intervention in Psychiatry. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, the current President of the Society for Mental Health Research, and the President of the Schizophrenia International Research Society.

### **Jennifer Coen**

Clinical Mental Health Social Worker and Consultant, Sydney Catholic Schools



Jennifer Coen is a Clinical Mental Health Social Worker with 25 years experience in the areas of child and adolescent mental health and trauma. She has a Masters in Education and was employed as the Head of School Counselling at the Catholic Schools Office, Broken Bay Diocese (2010 - 2016) where she has managed a specialist intervention team, working to deliver mental health assessment and short term counselling services to students from kindergarten to year 12.

Previously employed as a Senior Trauma Counsellor with the the NSW State Coroners Office, Jennifer currently works as a Consultant with Sydney Catholic Schools, collaborating on the development of policy and guidelines that promote student mental health and wellbeing.

Jennifer has a small private practice in Wahroonga, Sydney, specialising in the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents in the areas of anxiety, depression, self harm, post traumatic stress, grief, and behavioural difficulties.

She is the author of the recent publication , “School Safety and the Duty of Care - Self Harm.”

### **Jill Schofields**

Learning and Wellbeing, NSW Department of Education  
Jill Schofield is the Coordinator, Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL), NSW Department of Education and Communities.



Jill has a Masters of Arts by research, Macquarie University. Jill has held senior leadership roles in public education that focus on building the leadership and teacher quality capabilities of teachers, aspiring and existing leaders, to deliver the

best possible learning and social outcomes for all students.

Jill has led the establishment of state-wide structures to support the implementation of PBL across NSW. Currently 877 schools (40% of the state) have trained to implement the school-wide universal prevention aspect of Positive Behaviour for Learning in NSW Public Schools.

Jill was awarded a 2007 Churchill Fellowship to study PBIS implementation in the USA at the federal, state, regional, district and school level. She is an Ex-Officio Board Director of the USA Association of Positive Behaviour Supports 2012-2016.

### **Dr Heidi Lyneham**

Clinic Director, Centre for Emotional Health Clinic, Macquarie University



Dr Heidi Lyneham is a senior clinical psychologist and former research fellow who has been with the Centre for Emotional Health Macquarie University for 17 years. Her research has focused

on improving assessment and treatment methods for emotional problems experienced by young people and in developing competency and training standards for mental health professionals who work with child and adolescent anxiety and depression. As Clinic Director of the Centre for Emotional Health Clinic, Heidi leads a large clinical team that includes private clinicians, researchers and postgraduate students who provide direct services to individuals and families across the lifespan.

### **Dr Barbara Spears**

Faculty of Education, University of South Australia, Faculty of Education, University of South Australia

Barbara Spears is Associate Professor of Education, in the School of Education, at the University of South Australia. She is Research Leader of the Wellbeing Research Group in the Centre for Research in Education at UniSA and the Hawke Research Institute. She currently leads the Review and Update of the National Safe Schools Framework, Australia's national wellbeing policy framework. She has recently also led: Safe and Well Online, a \$2 million



national project for the Young and well Co-operative Research Centre, exploring interdisciplinary online interventions; A Public Health Approach to Sexting (UNISA); Cyberbullying, Sexting and the Law (Department for Education and Child Development); and Youth Exposure to and Management of Cyber-Bullying Incidents in Australia (Department of Communications) all of which have directly informed national and State law reform and policy. Her chief areas of research include: youth voice and participatory design; children and technology; sexting; bullying, cyberbullying; covert bullying; bystander behaviour; mental health and wellbeing; social emotional development; and teacher education. International research has been undertaken with partners from UK, Europe, and India.

### **Dr Suzy Green**

Clinical and Coaching Psychologist (MAPS) and Founder of The Positivity Institute

Dr Suzy Green is a Clinical and Coaching Psychologist (MAPS) and Founder of The Positivity



Institute, a positively deviant organisation dedicated to the research and application of Positive Psychology for life, school and work. Suzy is a leader in the complementary fields of Coaching Psychology and Positive Psychology having conducted a world-first study on evidence-based

coaching as an Applied Positive Psychology. Suzy was the recipient of an International Positive Psychology Fellowship Award and has published in the Journal

of Positive Psychology. Suzy lectured on Applied Positive Psychology as a Senior Adjunct Lecturer in the Coaching Psychology Unit,

University of Sydney for ten years and is an Honorary Vice President of the International Society for Coaching Psychology. Suzy also currently holds Honorary Academic positions at the Institute for Positive Psychology & Education (IPPE), Australian Catholic University, the Melbourne Graduate School of Education (MGSE), University of Melbourne and the Black Dog Institute. Suzy is also an

Affiliate of the Institute for Well-Being, Cambridge University. Suzy was the "Stress-less Expert" for Australian Women's Health Magazine for 8 years and maintains a strong media profile appearing regularly on television, radio and in print.

### **Dr Victoria Rawlings**

Faculty of Education and Social Work, University of Sydney

Victoria Rawlings teaches in the Faculty of Education and Social Work at the University of Sydney, lecturing and tutoring students on gender, sexuality, pedagogy and research methods. Her doctorate investigated the impact of gender and sexuality on school violence, policy



and social structures in high schools. Following her postgraduate study, she worked in the UK for two years on a national project investigating LGBTQ youth self-harm and suicide. She continues to write research the intersections between curriculum, schooling, gender and sexuality and has a new book that (according to her) is definitely worth purchasing or requesting for your library: Gender regulation, violence and social hierarchies in school: 'Sluts', 'Gays' and 'Scrubs'.

### **Dr Angela Dixon**

Clinical Research Director and Senior Clinical Psychologist at the Department of Psychological Medicine, Children's Hospital at Westmead.

Dr. Angela Dixon is Clinical Research Director and Senior Clinical Psychologist at the Department of Psychological Medicine, Children's Hospital at Westmead. Angela has worked with emotionally troubled children and adolescents



in a variety of positions, both in Australia and the USA, for the past 25 years. Angela began her career working with street kids in inner-city Melbourne, and has since worked with a variety of at-risk populations including juvenile offenders, teen parents, and youth with complex mental health needs. In her current role she co-ordinates the Psychological Medicine Child Traumatic Stress Clinic, and continues to teach on child and adolescent mental health to both academic and professional audiences. Her special interests are anxiety disorders, self-harm, trauma and PTSD in adolescents.

### **Terry Taylor**

Principal, Hoptown SSP, NSW Department of Education

Terry Taylor is the principal of Hoptown SSP, a school for primary and secondary students with emotional disturbance.

Terry has taught and been an administrator in both independent and state school systems. He has pursued a strong interest in best practice in managing challenging behaviours and crises, in neuroscience and how it is informing an understanding of behaviour, in trauma-informed practice in schools and more recently in the



benefits of mindfulness practice in mainstream and specialised school settings.

Terry has been an appreciated presenter at conferences, university and school staff trainings. He is a certified and master instructor in several crisis management models and is a qualified teacher of mindfulness in schools (Mindfulness in Schools Project, UK).

Terry's professional experience and wide reading in the fields of education, security and travel have provided him with many opportunities to explore best practice in behaviour management and understanding the human condition.

### **Professor Fiona Brooks**

Professor of Public Health,  
University of Technology  
Sydney Professor Fiona  
Brooks, Associate Dean  
Research Faculty of Health,  
University of Technology  
Sydney



Fiona Brooks (BA, PhD) is  
Professor of Public Health at The  
University of Technology Sydney and Associate  
Dean Research. Since 2008 she has been Chief  
Investigator for England on the WHO Health  
Behaviour in School-aged Children study (HBSC)

and international cross-sectional study that takes place in 43 countries. Professor Brooks authored the chapter on school-aged children recently for England's Chief Medical Officer's annual report 2012: Our Children Deserve Better: Prevention Pays, Department of Health. Brooks was an invited author by Public Health England to provide an official briefing for head teachers, governors and staff in education settings in England on the relationship between health and well-being and attainment. She has been an expert advisor to the UK Cabinet Office, Public Health England and the Department of Health on adolescent health

### **Keith Fennell**

Keith was accepted into the elite Australian Special Air Service Regiment at the age of 21. He was deployed on many operations, including missions to Afghanistan, East Timor, the Solomon Islands and the southern Indian Ocean. Fennell also served on a medical deployment to East Africa, was a member of the boarding party in the controversial MV Tampa incident, and supported counter-terrorist operations for the 2002 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Brisbane and the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.



Keith published his first book, Warrior Brothers, in 2008 and it quickly went on to become a

bestseller. His second book was published in 2009. Keith completed a Bachelor of Arts and Graduate Diploma of Education in 2014. He quickly established himself as a leader in the Airs High School community, leveraging his personal experiences to engage and inspire students at the disadvantaged school in south-western Sydney. The school has a high proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, and Keith utilises innovative teaching strategies to motivate, with a particular focus on boys considered unreachable by others. Keith's leadership in the school's 'Mateship, Mentoring and Masculinity Program' has seen at-risk male students become empowered, self-aware learners who are able to set ambitious, yet achievable, goals for personal growth. Keith was awarded a 2016 Australian Scholarships Group (ASG) National Excellence in Teaching Award which he received in March 2017.