

Dr Christine Chen is the founder and president of the Association for Early Childhood Educators (AECES). Her first work experience in Singapore was in the company sponsored child care centre for factory workers' children, where she learnt about the importance of having qualified teachers to ensure quality education for all children. As a result, she initiated the Association to advocate for teacher development, continuous learning and career pathways. She has been advocating for professional development and learning for early childhood educators for 25 years.

Dr Chong Har Tshin worked in the Education Ministry for 30 years in classroom teaching, curriculum planning and development, pre-school programmes and policy reviews. She has been an Early Childhood Education consultant and teacher trainer since 2009. With her experiences in pre-school policy reviews and programme implementation, she understands the needs for changing policies and programmes at the macro level. Her recent work with the UniSIM teacher training, research and practicum supervision, the FLAiR programme, the PlayMaker project and the MOE/MTL framework, has given her opportunities to learn about the policy and programme implementation issues at the ground level. Being the chairperson of the AECES Professional Development Committee, she advocates in teachers' continuous learning to provide the best experiences for children and the overall quality of child learning.

Mrs Lee Siew Choo is a retired Secondary School Principal. She spent 12 years in a school leadership position and found great joy and fulfilment in creating a unique school culture and mentoring staff to realise their potential and become school leaders themselves. Upon retirement, she spent three years learning about early childhood education and coaching and mentoring centre leaders in the PCF Childcare Centres to provide quality education for their young children. Her special interest lies in educational leadership and management as well as staff development which is key to quality education.

Mrs Loh Hui Meng has been with the early childhood profession since the mid-80s. She started out at the Monetary Authority of Singapore Child Development Centre where she set up a model of what quality preschool care & education can do to support working parents who in turn are able to then contribute to the Singapore economy knowing that their children are in good hands. Placing a strong emphasis on professional development as a way of advancing the profession, Hui Meng shared the lead with like-minded early childhood professionals who are passionate about raising standards of practice. Besides being a freelance teacher educator, workshop facilitator & mentor, she has also assumed various roles in projects such as FLAiR, SPARK, Hand-in-Hand, & co-authored with Mrs Geeta Velu the first "Code of Ethics Handbook: An essential companion for daily practice".

Ms Belinda Ng has been in early childhood for more than 25 years, starting off as an assistant teacher in a company sponsored child care centre. She went on to be seconded to help out with the start-up of another company sponsored child care centre. In the past 16 years, she has been actively involved with ECE practitioners and young children in various training and mentoring programmes.

Ms Therese Tan began her career in early childhood as an assistant teacher in a church-based kindergarten. After her studies, she worked with the SAF, setting up their first workplace-based child care centre for children of personnel in SAF and the Ministry of Defence in the 1980s. She has been actively involved in AECES and continues to work with teachers in training and in practice.

Ms Teo Bee Eng is a retired primary school principal and she has served in the education service for more than 30 years. Upon retirement, she received training on Early Childhood (EC) from the Ministry of Education, Preschool Branch (PEB). In the last 3 years, she learnt much about the importance of leadership and staff development in the pre-schools. She has also worked in the PAP Community Foundation (PCF) HQ, and together with the centre leaders, worked on quality leadership and people management in the childcare setting. She believes in life-long learning and that one should continue to learn and grow professionally and personally. Her passion is in reading and in promoting the love for reading to the young and old. She has a keen interest also in staff development, which is crucial to quality education.

Ms Mabel Wee worked for 18 years as a Primary School Principal. Upon retirement, she received EC training from MOE, Preschool Unit. She learnt much about SPARK assessment and the importance of leadership and staff development. She worked for 3 years at PCF Headquarters and worked together with many preschools on quality leadership and people management. Even before her retirement as a Principal, she has mentored "newly appointed" principals and now she wishes to extend this service to EC leaders too.

Mrs Linda Yan has had more than 30 years of experience in the education and training industry. In education, she has had the extensive wealth of teaching experience ranging from early childhood to both primary and secondary levels and then adult training of pre-school teachers for certificate and diploma courses at the Singapore Institute of Management. Linda, in association with a mediation and counselling agency, has delivered many workshops and training sessions to MOE teachers and HODs, community partners like Dads for Life, Health Promotion Board as well as corporate training for middle and executive management. Her current involvement is with AECES as a teacher trainer and advocate for the FLAiR program. Part of her portfolio also includes conducting mentoring workshops for Preschool principals who have adopted the FLAiR program in their centres.

Ms Patricia Koh is a trained Social Worker and Counsellor with rich and diverse work experiences from public and private sectors as well as not-for-profit organisations. She meandered into the early childhood sector in 2004 when she joined PCF HQ and established a SEN team (special educational needs) to develop programs/projects to support the needs of PCF pre-schoolers with additional needs and their families. Among the more successful collaborative initiatives was MIP (Mission: I'm Possible). It is now known as the Development Support Programme (DSP) that is made available to many preschools. Since 2012, Patricia has been engaged in different capacities to provide services directly and indirectly to parents and families through KKH programs such as Signposts, SAFE and KIDS 0-3.

Mr Loke Kay Khee worked in the Education Ministry for 35 years. He spent 25 years in a school leadership position, in charge of 6 Secondary and Primary schools. Upon retirement, he works with NIE as a part-time lecturer conducting training for educators, both local and overseas with focus on school management, creative learning and group guidance.