

## DIR/Floortime Model of Intervention

**Developmental, Individual differences, Relationship based Model: Integrating the neurological and emotional development of the child.**  
*The Action is in the Interaction!*

**INTRODUCTORY COURSE: Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th May 2011: Parents**  
**INTRODUCTORY COURSE: Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th, May 2011: Professionals**  
**Day 3: EXTENDED CLINICAL WORKSHOP: 18th May 2011: Past Participants may apply.**

Presented by:

**MARI CAULFIELD** Speech & Language Therapist DIR Cert. International Faculty ICDL  
**KATHY WALMSLEY** Occupational Therapist DIR Cert. International Faculty ICDL

Venue: Galway Bay Hotel, Galway, Ireland.



## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The DIR model was developed by Dr. Stanley Greenspan MD and Dr. Serena Wieder as a framework to assist parents, and professionals in constructing a comprehensive intervention program that focuses on improving the child's functioning in all the development capacities where there are challenges, and, at the same time, promote healthy foundations for overall social, emotional and intellectual functioning. This introductory training will focus on use of the DIR/Floortime model with children with communication and learning difficulties, regulatory disorders, and children with behaviours that place them on the autistic spectrum.

DIR uses emotional and motivating experienced based learning to improve social skills, language, independence, and to support higher level thinking. Intervention is offered within the context of developmentally designed play and learning situations. Therapeutically guided interaction with children in the means of moving children up the development ladder.

This course will highlight the **interdisciplinary** nature of this model. Video case examples will be used extensively in this training and will include and integrate working with children in a variety of environments including the clinic, home and group educational settings throughout the schedule. This will include progress demonstrated by children made over a number of years. There will be a focus on supporting and coaching parents.

The science that supports the theory from the fields of child development, neuroscience and development models will be outlined.

### Programme Objectives

Participants will be able to:

1. Have an introductory understanding of the DIR model as an interdisciplinary approach that integrates the emotional and neurobiological functioning of the child.
2. Describe the relationship between affect, sensory processing, and communication.
3. Highlight the importance of a relationship-based approach.
4. Identify and describe the six core functional emotional developmental stages and related capacities.
5. Develop an introductory understanding of the FEAS (Functional Emotional Assessment Scale) as an assessment tool that can be used to build a development profile for the child, and guide treatment / parent coaching.
6. Describe and begin to use 'DIR/Floortime' techniques within clinics, home and school settings

Photos courtesy of

<http://candygoldsmithphotography.weebly.com>

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This training is designed for Speech & Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Health and Educational professionals, Mental Health professionals, Medical Professionals, Nurses, Play Therapists, Psychologists, Teachers and special needs Assistants are welcome.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

**Mari Caulfield** and **Kathy Walmsley** both hold roles as DIR International Faculty at the ICDL institute in the USA and are leading DIR professionals in their home countries of Ireland and Australia.

**Mari Caulfield** has worked in Ireland for 30 years as a Speech and Language Therapist in a variety of clinical and management roles which include Health Boards, Child Education Centres, Special Schools and Autism specific classes. She holds a Faculty position with the Interdisciplinary Council for Learning and Developmental Disorders (ICDL) and is DIR® certified and travels between Ireland and the U.S.A. annually to support her continued professional development. Mari has undertaken extensive training over the years including Montessori, Integrated Psychotherapy, PROMPT, Sensory Integration, Intensive Interaction and Hanen approach. She lives and works in County Galway in Ireland where she has established a Speech and Language Therapy Practice. Mari is the founder of "Look into My Eyes" an innovative Floor Time™ programme, a 'parents teaching parents' training initiative held annually in the West of Ireland.

**Kathy Walmsley** has worked as an Occupational Therapist in Australia, as well as in the UK and in the USA over the past 27 years, in a variety of community based settings, including neurology, vocational rehabilitation, and mental health. She holds a Faculty position with the Interdisciplinary Council for Learning and Developmental Disorders, and is DIR® certified. Over the past twelve years she has specialised in paediatrics with a special interest in working with children with complex neurodevelopment and sensory processing challenges. She has post graduate certificate in counselling and has attended numerous trainings and workshops in her field of occupational therapy. Kathy is a founder of Sensory Connections OTS, a private OT practice in Perth, Western Australia.

Mari and Kathy share a common passion for their work with children and families. They have both received close mentorship with Senior DIR® Faculty in the USA and been awarded a 2009 Faculty award in recognition of research and ongoing contribution to DIR education. They bring a wealth of practical experience as well as clinical knowledge and expertise to their teaching style and have trained internationally. They both have international training experience in the field of DIR. Participants will leave this training with specific strategies and tools to bring back to their clinics, work or home settings.

## RECOMMENDED PRE-READING

We recommend that to obtain the most from this training participants read:-

- The Child with Special Needs, and/or
- Engaging Autism – Greenspan and Weider

Websites to visit: [www.icdl.com](http://www.icdl.com), [www.floortime.org](http://www.floortime.org), [www.polyxo.com](http://www.polyxo.com), [www.celebratethechildren.com](http://www.celebratethechildren.com)

# SCHEDULE

## Day 2 9.00 AM - 5.00 PM

## Day 1 9.00 AM - 5.00 PM

### Introductions

### What are DIR® and Floor Time™ ?

**D** – Six Primary Social Emotional Developmental Capacities essential for growth

Level 1 Shared attention and regulation Level 2 Engagement and Intimacy Level 3 Two way purposeful communication Level 4 Complex Problem-Solving Level 5 Symbolic ideation Level 6 emotional and Logical Reasoning

**I** - Individual Differences – Introduction to sensory processing including sensory modulation, motor planning and sequencing; visual and auditory processing.

**R** – Relationships and the central role of affect in

**Assessment & Intervention DIR® Perspectives-** Individual Neurological Differences, Sensory processing including sensory modulation, development and learning.

Motor planning and sequencing; visual and auditory processing. Sensory, Affective/Emotional Regulation, Engagement & Purposeful Communication, Affect to Intent, Shared Problem Solving, Complex Communication. Emotional Thinking & Logical Reasoning.

- ▶ **Communication, Speech and Language: Developmental Language Perspective: Shared Attention, Affective Engagement, Reciprocity, Shared Intentions, Shared forms and meanings**
- ▶ **The relationship between affect, sensory processing and communication**
- ▶ **Case Based Analysis and Problem Solving from an interdisciplinary perspective: Workshop.**
- ▶ **Key Principles and Strategies of Floortime**
- ▶ **Social groups & Peer Play; Education and DIR.**

## Day 3 Clinical Workshop 9.00 - 5.00pm Assessment and

**Intervention from a developmental perspective – Extended Practical Workshop** Assessment and Case formulation with a Variety of Individual Profiles & caregiver patterns. Self Reflective opportunity for ways of integration of DIR & Goal setting into your current clinical practice.

Please note: DIR® is a registered trademark of the Interdisciplinary Council of Development and learning disorders (ICDL). This training is not a part of or presented by ICDL but is presented by Sensory Connections OTS which is affiliated with ICDL. It does provide interdisciplinary training that fulfils the requirement for entrance to DIR (B) level at the ICDL Institute training Program. Mari and Kathy are able to provide ongoing tutoring and mentoring support opportunities. For information about DIR institute levels please refer to [www.icdl.com](http://www.icdl.com)

**DIR®/Floor Time** Fee inclusive of handout materials, cert of attendance, coffees, and lunches.

### Fees:

**PARENTS: DIR/Floortime: Day 1 & 2: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011 Fee: € 300**

**PROFESSIONALS: DIR/Floortime: Day 1,2,3: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011 Fee: € 450**

**Day 3 Extended Clinical Workshop (Past Participants) Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March 2010: Fee €150**



Name: .....

Address: .....

Telephone No.: ..... Mobile No..... Email: .....

Professional Details & Workplace.....

(For previous Professional participants: Introductory Course)

Day 1 & 2

Day 1, 2, 3

Day 3 only

Please outline where & when you took Introductory training \_\_\_\_\_

Fee Enclosed

Parent

Professional

Dietary requirements: .....

Signature: ..... Date: .....

Cheques Payable to **Training ways** Send to: Training Ways, The Courtyard, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway, Ireland. Tel:00353 91 796777

[www.trainingways.com](http://www.trainingways.com) Email: [trainingways@eircom.net](mailto:trainingways@eircom.net)

**Receipt of cheque** will secure a place on the training course, and applications will be taken on a first come first served basis

### Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be made at least two weeks prior to the course, after which no refunds will be granted.. Any refunds issued will be subject to a €50 processing fee