

## 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: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2014: Parents & Professionals**  
**Day 3: EXTENDED CLINICAL WORKSHOP: Professionals: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014: Past Participants may apply.**

Presented by:

**MARI CAULFIELD** Speech & Language Therapist  
**KATHY WALMSLEY** Occupational Therapist

**Venue: Galway Bay Hotel, Galway, Ireland.**



## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The DIR model (Developmental Individualised Relationship based model) was developed as a framework to assist parents, and professionals in constructing a comprehensive intervention program that focuses on improving the child's functioning in developmental 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 the use of 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 is 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 and will include and integrate working with children in a variety of environments including the clinic, home and group educational settings. This will include progress demonstrated by children made over a number of years. There will be a focus on supporting and coaching parents as an important part of the model.

The background 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, and understand Individual differences as part of the model.
3. Understand the importance of a relationship-based approach.
4. Understand developmental language perspective most relevant to this assessment & intervention
5. Identify and describe the six core functional emotional developmental stages and related capacities.
6. 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. Day 3.
7. Describe and begin to use 'DIR/Floortime' model within the clinic, 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 and parents.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

**Mari Caulfield** and **Kathy Walmsley** both hold roles as DIR International Faculty with ICDL and support training in the USA and internationally and are leading professionals integrating DIR and developmental intervention in their home countries of Ireland and Australia.

**Mari Caulfield** has worked in Ireland for 34 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 ([www.icdl.com](http://www.icdl.com)) and Profectum 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 parent programme, a 'parents teaching parents' training initiative held annually in the West of Ireland. She is a member of Irish Association of Speech & Language Therapists, and Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists. [www.maricaulfield.com](http://www.maricaulfield.com)

**Kathy Walmsley** has worked as an Occupational Therapist in Australia, as well as in the UK and in the USA over the past 31 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, Profectum 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. She is currently taking the doctoral programme in infant mental health with the Graduate school.

Mari and Kathy share a common passion for their work with children and families. They receive 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 both have international training experience in the field of DIR. Participants will leave this training with specific strategies and tools to support their clinics, work or home settings. [www.sensoryconnections.com.au](http://www.sensoryconnections.com.au)

## RECOMMENDED PRE-READING

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

- Building Healthy Minds Dr Stanley Greenspan.
- The Child with Special Needs, and/or
- Engaging Autism – Greenspan and Weider

Websites to visit: [www.icdl.com](http://www.icdl.com), [www.profectum.org](http://www.profectum.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 is DIR? What is 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 social Problem-Solving 5 Symbolic ideation Level 6 Emotional and Logical Reasoning

I - Individual Differences – Including Sensory Processing, sensory modulation, motor planning and sequencing; visual, auditory processing and language.

R – Relationships and the central role of affect

### Assessment & Intervention: DIR Perspectives-

Individual Neurological Differences: Sensory processing including sensory modulation, development and learning, Motor planning and sequencing; visual and auditory processing within contexts of Sensory, Affective/Emotional Regulation, Engagement & Purposeful Communication, Affect to Intent, Shared Problem Solving, Complex Communication, Emotional Thinking & Logical Reasoning,

- Communication-Developmental Language Perspective: Shared Attention, Affective Engagement, Reciprocity, Shared Intentions, Shared forms and meanings .
- The relationship between affect, sensory processing and communication (Language Comprehension, Language Production, Pragmatics)
- Case Based Analysis and Problem Solving from an interdisciplinary perspective: Assessment Workshop.
- Key Principles and Strategies of Floortime
- Goal setting within intervention

## Day 3 Clinical Workshop 9.00 - 5.00pm Assessment and Intervention from a developmental perspective – Extended Practical Workshop & Clinical Psychology Session

Assessment & Intervention (Incl FEAS), Case formulation and Case studies, Individual Profiles & caregiver patterns. Self Reflective opportunity for ways of integrating DIR approach & DIR Goal setting into current clinical practice. Dr. Barbara Kalmanson, Clinical Psychologist and Special Educator, will join by Skype session during this day.

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 IC DL but is presented by TrainingWays which is affiliated with IC DL. It does provide interdisciplinary training that fulfils the requirement for entrance to DIR (B) level at the IC DL Institute training Program. Mari and Kathy also provide ongoing tutoring and mentoring support opportunities. For information about please refer to [www.icdl.com](http://www.icdl.com) [www.profectum.org](http://www.profectum.org)

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## DIR/Floor Time Fee includes materials, cert of attendance, coffees & light lunch.

### Fees:

PROFESSIONALS/PARENTS: DIR/Floortime: Day 1 & 2: Wednesday 7th & Thursday 8th May 2014: Fee: € 260

PROFESSIONALS ONLY :Day 1,2,3 : Wednesday 7th to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014: Fee: € 365

Day 3 Only Professionals: Extended Clinical Workshop (Past Participants) Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014: Fee €130

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

DAY 3: 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, Tyrone, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway, Ireland. Tel:00353 91 796600  
[www.trainingways.com](http://www.trainingways.com) Email: [enquiries@trainingways.com](mailto:enquiries@trainingways.com)

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