



HABILITATION STAFF CHANGES – QUEENS DRIVE CLINIC

May 2017

We would like to advise you of some staffing changes in our Wellington Habilitation service that will affect some families living in the North Island.

Karen Watson, Habilitationist, is taking maternity leave from 26 May 2017 for a period of 12 months. We wish Karen all the best at this exciting time.

In conjunction with the programme, van Asch Deaf Education Centre (VADEC) has appointed **Helen Hawkins** to the vacancy created by Karen's temporary departure. Helen may already be familiar to some families, as she has worked for several years as a VADEC Resource Teacher of the Deaf in the Wellington and Manawatu regions.

Helen's appointment will result in some changes to the caseloads of both Helen and Lisa Fawcett, our other Habilitationist in the Wellington clinic;

- Helen will be working with children who live in the **Wellington, Wairarapa, Manawatu and Wanganui** regions.
- Lisa Fawcett will take up working with children in the **Hawkes Bay – East Coast** region and a few of the **Wellington** families previously seen by Karen.

We will shortly be sending letters to all families in the North Island who have been working with Karen and those families whose care will be transferred.

This notice will also be posted on our web-site and Facebook pages.

Transition Period

Helen will begin with the SCIP from 15 May. She will work part-time 2 and a half days per week until 25 July, after which date she will work full-time for the SCIP until Karen's return.

Questions?

If families have any questions about the upcoming changes they are welcome to discuss these with Karen Watson (before 25 May) or Lisa Fawcett in our Wellington office. Alternatively people may call Jill Mustard, Clinical Manager, at our Christchurch clinic.

Introducing: Helen Hawkins

Helen is a trained Resource Teacher of the Deaf. She has worked with a number of children with cochlear implants from pre-school to high school age range in the Wellington and Horowhenua – Manawatu areas.

Helen has had more than 20 years teaching experience in mainstream classrooms, has worked as a reading recovery teacher and worked with students learning English as a second language, as well as being Teacher in Charge of Learning Support. Helen enjoys a wide range of interests including outdoor pursuits, particularly skiing and swimming, and enjoys swing and rock 'n roll dancing.