

Recently, two respected special education experts visited Mater Dei. Both propose models that challenge us to enhance the approaches we take to support and educate the children in our care.

Dr Bree Jimenez (pictured far right) is an assistant professor in special education at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. Our regular readers may recall that both Rebecca Gibbs, Primary Coordinator, and Sam Giles, Assistant Principal, have recently had the opportunity to travel to the US, work with Bree and examine her research in the field of curriculum access for students with disabilities, specifically in the areas of adapted literature, mathematics and inquiry science.

Bree's recent visit to Mater Dei enabled her to gain a greater perspective of our students as well as seeing our curriculum in action. "We will continue to build our relationship with Bree and draw upon her research and knowledge to inform the implementation of the new national curriculum in 2014" said Rebecca.

In early September, Peter Limbrick visited the Mater Dei Early Intervention Program (MDEIP). Peter has enjoyed a career in leadership in special schools and set up the UK charity, One Hundred Hours, where his Team Around the Child (TAC) model was developed.

Whilst here, Peter facilitated parent and mainstream practitioner workshops and also the MDEIP team's self-assessment. "Peter's wealth of knowledge and expertise provided us with an opportunity to reflect, review and plan for how a TAC model of service to our children and their families can best be provided through our program" said Pamela Templeton, Director of Services.

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

