

Early Years Occupational Therapy Partnership with Tyack Health Continuing in 2018

After identifying a need for further development of self-regulation and fine motor skills in our lower years cohort, Gumdale State School enlisted the expertise of an Occupational Therapist from Tyack Health last year. Class teachers reported an increase in skill development and self-regulation since the students began participating in the groups.

In 2018, the pay-as-you-go program continues to expand from Prep into Year 1, with another OT from Tyack coming on board to support our students at school.

Students are initially given an individual screener to assess their skills across a range of areas. From here, a program is designed to engage them in a range of activities, specifically to develop skills in their areas of need, all while having fun with their peers in our Student Support Centre.

Numbers are limited to no more than 4 students per group, and are led and facilitated by an OT and a school staff member.

This year's program will run as follows:

	Occupational Therapist	When
Prep	Samantha Duncan	Friday mornings in Terms 2 – 4
Year 1	Joanne Slocombe	Friday mornings in Terms 1 – 4

Expressions of Interest forms are available from all Year 1 classrooms. Teachers may also recommend the program for students whom they feel would benefit from participating. Parents and carers of students in Year 1 are also invited to attend an **information session** presented by Joanne Slocombe, at our Student Support Centre (blue building next to tuckshop) on **Friday 2 February at 9am**.

If you would like more information about the program, please contact Leea Mitchell, Head of Student Support, at lmitch80@eq.edu.au

