**Leighton Dewes**

**Education**

Certified English teacher (TESOL), Teach International, Melbourne, Australia.

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy - Otago Polytechnic, Otago, New Zealand.

First Aid Certificate - St Johns, New Zealand.

Graduate of Timaru Boys High School, Timaru, New Zealand.

**Work Experience**

**Position:** Elementary school teacher for Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education, Seoul, South Korea.

I taught English within a public elementary school, to large classes of first to sixth grade students. In this role, I independently prepared lesson plans and teaching materials. In the classroom, I lead each lesson and was assisted when required, by a Korean speaking co-teacher. Working in this position helped me develop teaching skills in many areas, including class facilitation, behavioral management and lesson planning. The experience of working with children in this environment has been so rewarding. I love to see my students succeed and watch their confidence grow. I am certain I have the skills to enable my students to achieve.

**Position:** Occupational Therapist working in a large metropolitan hospital in Melbourne, Australia.

I worked in a rehabilitation unit helping patients with disabilities to return to valued daily activities. In this position I took on professional management responsibilities which developed my organization and time management skills. These skills are essential for a TESOL teacher to have. The hospital I work in serviced a culturally diverse population which meant that every day I worked with patients who were speakers of English as their second language. This has enabled me to develop strong communicative abilities and I am comfortable working with learners with diverse needs. I always aim to honor and respect every individual’s values, self worth and dignity.

**Position:** Student teacher on practical placement as part of TESOL certificate.

I have completed a TESOL placement in a private English language school where I planned and taught a number of lessons to ESL students. I loved the role of being a teacher and really valued interacting with my students and encouraging them to achieve. This experience gave me the opportunity to develop specific teaching skills in lesson planning, classroom management, presentation skills and being student-centered. This experience has left me feeling so enthusiastic and positive about teaching. As a teacher, I will be dedicated and committed to the needs of my students.

**Position:** Occupational Therapist working in small regional hospital in New Zealand.

In this position, I worked with a broad range of patients (children through to the elderly) who had disabilities. In this role I was constantly involved in teaching and educating patients new concepts and ideas in one on one interactions as well as in group settings. Working in this environment I had to be both compassionate and empathetic to the complex needs of those I worked with, as well as being motivational and enthusiastic to encourage my patients to achieve their goals. I will endeavor to bring these skills to my role as a TESOL teacher to ensure I am encouraging development amongst all my students.

**Referees**

Eunhee Kim: Elementary school teacher, Seoul, South Korea. [kenosis4u@hanmail.net](mailto:kenosis4u@hanmail.net)

Grace Cabatingan: Senior Occupational Therapist, Peninsula Health, Melbourne Australia. [gcabatingan@phcn.vic.gov.au](mailto:gcabatingan@phcn.vic.gov.au)

Sarah Anderson: Consultant Occupational Therapist, At Work Solutions, Napier, New Zealand. [sarah@atworksolutaions.co.nz](mailto:sarah@atworksolutaions.co.nz)