**Transcript for the SLSO Video**

**Graphic**

“Effective partnerships with School Learning Support Officers (SLSOs)”

**Kerryn Rock**

I'm Karen I'm an SLSO and I work with the teachers and the students with helping out with the kids, whether it's from reading, helping out with reading the activities they're working on, keeping them focussed on what they're doing. Quite a range of different things, whenever I can help out.

**Courtenay Ciric**

My own personal philosophy is that it's a team that helps our children to succeed. That includes parents, teachers, principals, the SLSOs and outside agencies.

**Kerryn Rock**

We always have students in a classroom that tend to want to go off and do their own thing or need that extra one on one. So I find that's mostly where I can be helpful. So keeping them focussed on task, keeping them interested. Refocusing their enthusiasm. You know, they have lots of enthusiasm and lots of ideas. So yeah, just keeping them on task and supporting, giving Courtney that support. One of the things I've needed to learn, I guess with this role is to not do it for them. So, you know, as a mother, you tend to want to do things. And as a SLSO I need to step back and be able to give them that guidance to keep them doing what they need to do and learn instead of picking up and doing it for them.

Working with teachers, I find that each teacher can be different, so depending on the teacher and what they're doing, what task it is as to where I can be helpful with that. I feel like you naturally learn to bounce off the teachers that you're with. So depending on how their lesson is, I tend to just run with whatever it is that they're doing. Sometimes they give me specific direction, but otherwise it's just something that you learn to do as you spend time in the classroom.

You know, I find if I'm struggling with that, the teacher then will jump in and give me some direction to give them some direction. So working, you know, as that team as you go along, which is amazing.

**Donna Dunn**

At Fernhill, to help build relationships between all the staff, we have something that we call, chat and chew once a week, which is where we all get together for breakfast and we take it in turns of providing food. And that gives us a good opportunity to not only socialise with people in our own section, but other members of the staff and also too, our breaks are always interchanged, like who we are in the playground with and who we're in class with. So that gives the opportunity to socialise and discuss different students and different ways of doing things. I think having a really good team and being able to have a good relationship with everyone is very important.

I think once you've got a team where everybody works together, it makes things a lot easier because working with children with different abilities can be difficult at times and it can be extremely rewarding. But sometimes days can be hard. And so if you've got a whole team that works together, it really makes the job a lot easier.

**Krista-Ann Forsstrom**

Typically, each year you will have the new teacher new SLSO team. I very much value my SLSO. Literally couldn't do without them. It is very important to me to listen to my SLSO and from day one, I tell them, give me feedback. I ask for their opinion on things, so I'll say "what do you think if we did this" or "what do you think if we changed this?” And I think that that... just being open, knowing... letting your SLSO know that you are open to their input is really important in building a strong relationship and building a strong relationship with your SLSO is very important in meeting the needs of your students because if you're not working together, then it just doesn't work.

**Kerryn Rock**

In this primary school. I feel supported in my work as it's, you know, such a nurturing environment in a primary school. And so whether it's the teachers, the principal, the support staff, there's that sense of, you know, we're all working towards the same thing and that we want these children to learn and grow and be excited about learning. Sometimes they're really sort of simple steps in what they're learning, but it's more about that being excited to be here and wanting to learn.

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