

Effective Classrooms

Effective Classroom Management

Warringa Park Specialist School
● 300 students with a primary intellectual disability



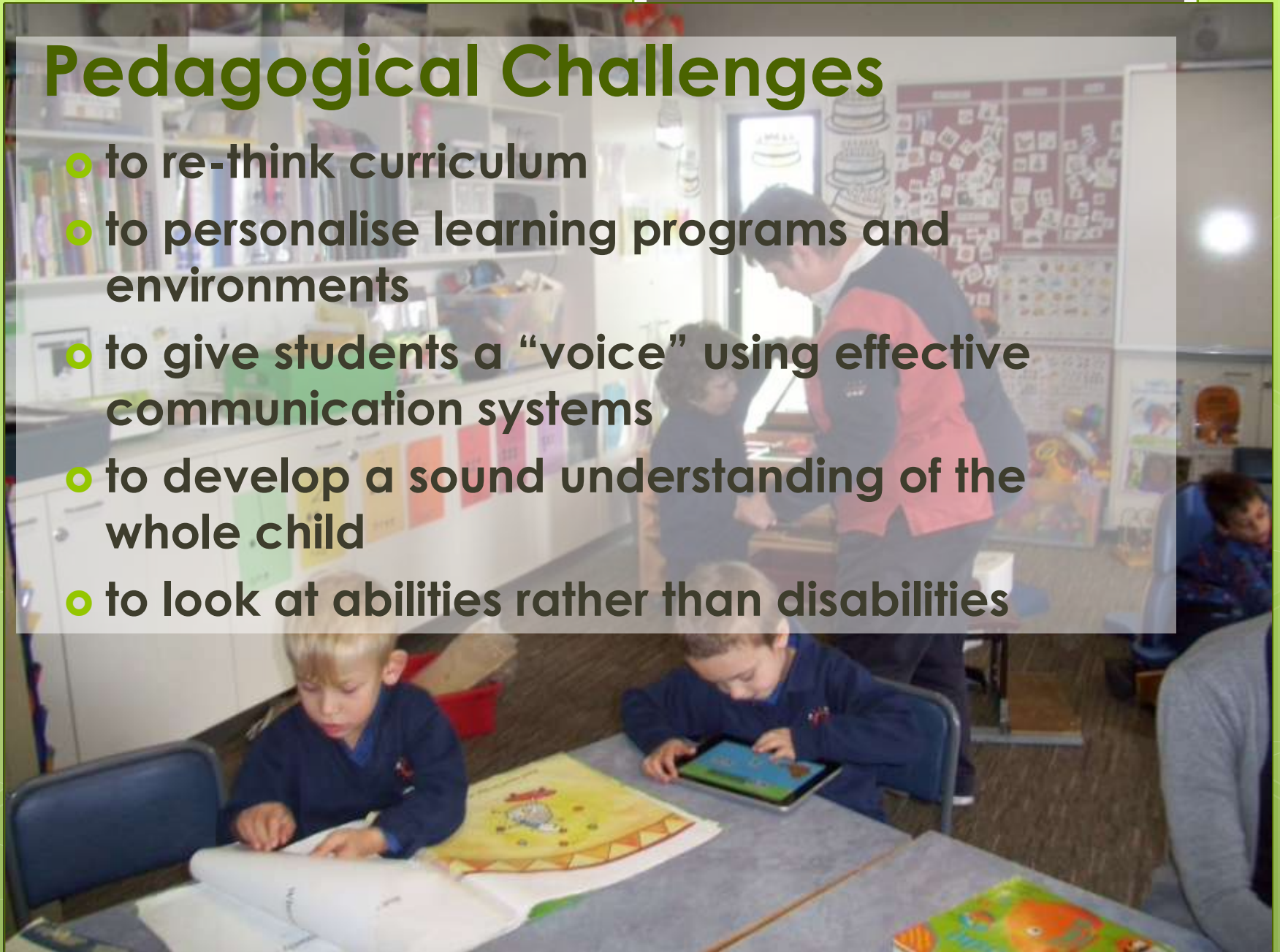
My Class

- 2009: 10 high support needs students
- 7 with Autism
- 9 non-verbal
- 3 non-English speaking families
- 2010: privileged to teach 8 again



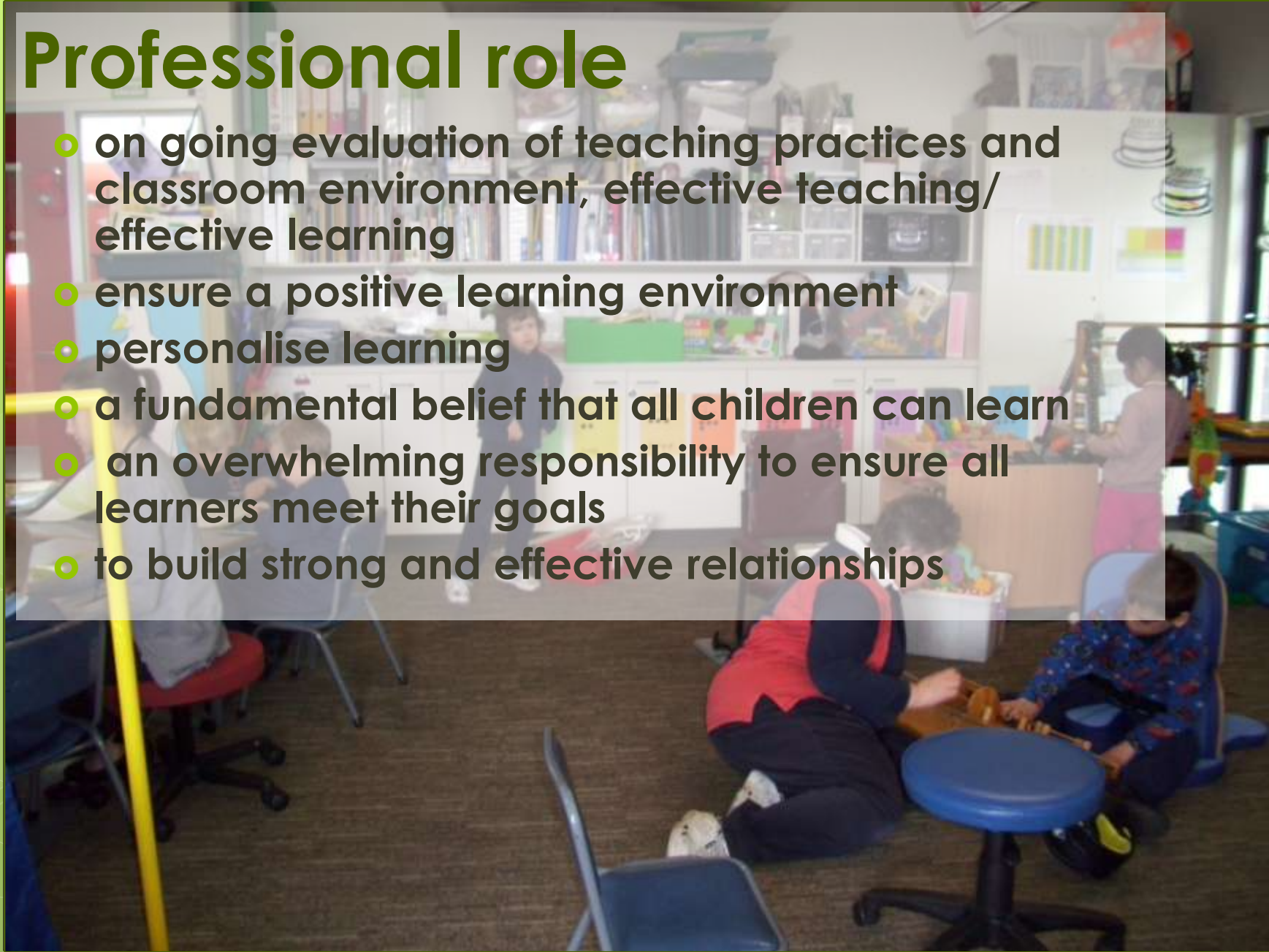
Pedagogical Challenges

- to re-think curriculum
- to personalise learning programs and environments
- to give students a “voice” using effective communication systems
- to develop a sound understanding of the whole child
- to look at abilities rather than disabilities



Professional role

- on going evaluation of teaching practices and classroom environment, effective teaching/ effective learning
- ensure a positive learning environment
- personalise learning
- a fundamental belief that all children can learn
- an overwhelming responsibility to ensure all learners meet their goals
- to build strong and effective relationships



Alana



Alana

- understanding
- identifying abilities
- entry skills
- making a difference- functional communication
- working in partnership with mum, identify key motivators and understand whole child
- assessing abilities and strengths
- preferred learning styles
- development of functional communication
- capacity to transfer learnt skills, home/ school
- ownership of learning eg. Communication book
- visual communication skills give a “voice”
- confident and purposeful interactions and trusting relationships
- personalised learning program built on interests and strengths
- celebration- optimised learning outcomes, joy of learning



Alana



Johan



Johan



- understanding
- identified abilities
- making sense of his school environment/ challenges
- making a difference- classroom organisation/ rules and routines
- knowing the whole child
- learning styles –strengths and motivators
- meaningful learning opportunities- engagement/ on task
- personalised program built around interests and abilities
- learning environment specific to needs , maximising outcomes
- celebration- loves to learn, functional verbal repertoire, self regulation and ongoing enthusiasm and order rather than chaos.

Johan



All children can learn



Johan



“Each of us can make a difference,
together we make change.”

Barbara Mikulski

