

Susan is a trained and registered primary school teacher, with 30 years teaching experience. She is in her fifteenth year as a one day school teacher and currently works at the New Zealand Centre for Gifted Education. Susan teaches two classes a week, providing a specialised programme for her gifted students. Her special interests in gifted education include philosophy for children, catering for twice exceptional learners and nurturing creative and critical thinking skills. Susan also provides a GATE programme for top ability students at an Auckland primary school one day each week and is the GATE teacher for the Junior School at St Cuthbert's College.

Susan is the parent of two sons, one a highly gifted student. She knows first hand the importance of ongoing advocacy for gifted students, especially relating to correct class placement to meet their special needs.

She worked as a professional actor in a Theatre-in-Education company for several years, performing educational plays throughout New Zealand. Susan taught private Speech and drama lessons for over a decade, preparing students for Trinity College London exams. She currently works as a Front of House attendant at the Aotea Centre, Civic Theatre, Auckland Town Hall and Herald Theatre several evenings each week.

Susan enjoys reading and is a member of a book club. She regularly attends the gym and walks for fitness. Susan loves going to movies and live theatre and spending time with family and friends.