

Isobel Christison 1920- ?

Isobel Christison was born in England and trained at the Rachel McMillan Training college for nursery teachers during the war years. In 1949, after immigrating to New Zealand, Miss Christison was appointed to the Petone Kindergarten which had been operating a nursery during the war years. While she was only at the kindergarten for a year she experimented with ideas of free play programmes in the kindergarten. In 1950 she was appointed to the Kindergarten College during the time when all kindergartens were instructed to run a free play programme. In 1953 Miss Christison was appointed to the Department of Education as Assistant Supervisor of pre School Services. This was a time of huge expansion in the kindergarten movement. From 1965 until her retirement in 1979 Miss Christison held the senior appointment as the Officer for Pre School Education. She was a frequent attendee at NZFKU conferences and her annual speeches provide a useful insight into the politics of the time

Further information:

May, Helen (2001, 2009 2nd ed.) *Politics in the playground: The world of early childhood in New Zealand*, University of Otago Press, Dunedin pp. 30-32

Two publications.

[A survey of preschool educational services in New Zealand : submitted to the degree of Master of Arts in Education at the Victoria University of Wellington / Isobel Christison.](#)

Christison, Isobel Jean 1965

Online access. The VUW library also has physical copies.

[Young children, their total needs and the community's provision for them : policy, procedures and possible problems/solutions associated with the coordination of all services dealing with care and education of young children](#)

Christison, Isobel Jean | New Zealand College Of Education | 1979

Hocken Collections, University of Otago