



THE
KNOWLEDGE
INSTITUTE

Evaluation mentoring and coaching

Build evaluation capability for the work you are doing now.

Evaluation capability is not just about tools, templates, or producing a report. It is about developing the confidence and judgement to ask good questions, make sense of what is happening, work with evidence that fits the context, and use learning to improve policy, programmes and practice.

Mentoring and coaching are practical, reflective, personalised supports for people and teams wanting to deepen understanding, build confidence, and develop practical skills to design, do, use, and communicate evaluation in ways that fit real-world contexts.

WAYS TO WORK TOGETHER



Intention

30-40 minute Q&A style **Clarity Session** with no commitment beyond the session.



Orientation

60-90 minute session to align on goals, time commitment, preparation, and follow-up.



Coaching rhythm

Multiple tailored sessions of 60-90 minutes scheduled around a live project or piece of work.

Options can include a single **Clarity Session** AND/OR an orientation session with packages of **3, 5 or 10 sessions** for ongoing support.

Longer-term arrangements can also be made

COACHING THEMES

- choosing an evaluation approach that fits complexity and uncertainty
- clarifying the purpose of evaluation
- designing practical mixed-method approaches
- developing theories of change, evaluative questions, criteria, and evidence strategies
- connecting co-design, prototyping, innovation, and evaluation
- testing prototypes before larger commitments
- navigating perspectives, values, power, and ways of knowing
- making sense of evidence and communicating credible performance stories
- strengthening organisational evaluation practice, roles, systems, and decision-making

CREDIBILITY

Kate McKegg is Director of The Knowledge Institute and has more than 30 years' experience in evaluation, evaluation capacity building, research, policy, facilitation, mentoring, and coaching.

Her work spans government, non-government, philanthropic, community, and indigenous contexts, with particular expertise in systems change, value for investment, innovation and complexity.

BOUNDARIES

Kate works alongside the client as a thoughtful, constructive critical friend, supporting them to test assumptions, consider alternatives, and build the capability to lead their own evaluation practice.

FOR



people with evaluation responsibilities and expectations



programme and project managers who need evaluation to be useful, proportionate, and credible



leaders accountable for services, portfolios, funding, innovation, or system change



small teams seeking a shared approach to learning, evidence, and decision-making

BENEFITS

- context-sensitive options rather than one-size-fits-all solutions
- clarity about the questions that matter most
- confidence in evaluative reasoning and decision-making
- stronger ability to learn, adapt, and communicate value in complex settings
- concrete next steps after each session

Kate provided exceptional coaching and mentoring throughout a two-year developmental evaluation adventure in a complex and innovative setting. I came to the project new to both evaluation mahi and DE, and Kate's guidance was central to building my confidence, capability, and understanding of how evaluation could meaningfully support emerging work in a changing environment.
Laura Ashton, Lived Experience Leader, Emerge Aotearoa

Email to book a conversation to explore whether mentoring and coaching is the right fit for your current evaluation challenge and budget.

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