

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Behaviour and learning](#)

Strategy: [Foster relationships and partnerships](#)

Suggestion: [Empower learners](#)

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18 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/behaviour-and-learning/empower-students](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/behaviour-and-learning/empower-students)

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## Explore rangatiratanga – self-determination

Offer learners ongoing opportunities to learn their culture. This can have a significant impact on a learner's self-respect and readiness to learn.

Teachers can help by:

- acknowledging learners' expertise, for example, their knowledge of a particular place or cultural convention, and inviting them to share their knowledge and experience with class members
- taking the role of a facilitator of learning rather than the holder of knowledge
- inviting students with specific skills to teach their peers and the teacher
- encouraging ākongā to invent – bring something new into being
- enabling ākongā to develop a sense of their own identity through making art works
- suggesting ākongā make a series of photographs about an issue or interest they feel passionate about
- talking with ākongā about where and how their work might best be displayed
- supporting ākongā to create opportunities to exhibit, publish or perform their work beyond the classroom
- encouraging and supporting ākongā to develop their own wellbeing initiatives.

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