

Partner with whānau, parents and caregivers

A suggestion for implementing the strategy
'Identify needs and how to provide support'
from the Guide: [Deaf and hard of hearing](#)

Includes:

- Act on whānau expertise
- Support home-school continuity
- Establish collaborative partnerships
- What to ask
- NCEA explained in NZSL
- Useful information for parents

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Deaf or hard of hearing students and learning](#)

Strategy: [Identify needs and how to provide support](#)

Suggestion: [Partner with whānau, parents and caregivers](#)

Date

01 September 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/deaf-or-hard-of-hearing-students-and-learning/partner-with-whanau-parents-and-caregivers

Act on whānau expertise

A family share their strategies for communicating and interacting with their Deaf son.



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/F2PLvuSJYUo>

Closed Captions

Source:

[National Deaf Children's Society \(UK\)](http://youtu.be/F2PLvuSJYUo)
<http://youtu.be/F2PLvuSJYUo>

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Support home-school continuity

Invite families to share approaches that are successful at home to build continuity and strengthen engagement and learning approaches.

- ✓ Communicate and share information in a meaningful way, demonstrating understanding and support for parents' concerns.
- ✓ Value what parents and caregivers have noticed or assessments they have had done outside school.
- ✓ Involve parents and caregivers in determining strategies to support student learning and well-being.
- ✓ Work with any programmes or materials they are using at home, to maximise consistency and support for the student.
- ✓ Develop systems for passing on information about a student's needs, progress and next steps in ways that are meaningful.
- ✓ Share information about out-of-school programmes (for example, classes or groups for music, art, debating or sport).
- ✓ Actively and regularly communicate positive information and achievements to the family.

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Establish collaborative partnerships

A successful partnership involves the teacher, the family, the student, and support staff such as resource teacher of the deaf.



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/1FIWCyVqpWo>

[View transcript](#)

Source:

LEARN NC (US)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FIWCyVqpWo&feature=youtu.be>

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What to ask

Connect with parents, whānau, and caregivers to understand the strengths and needs of ākonga.

The people in the learners' lives:

- parent and whānau hopes and priorities
- important people in the learner's life
- best methods and times to communicate with the family
- professionals working with the family
- questions they have and support they would like from the school.

Practical elements:

- the language(s) spoken at home
- medications and allergies
- equipment used at home
- what they do at home to support learning

Learners' likes and dislikes:

- likes, interests, strengths, what they're good at, can do independently
- dislikes, what can upset them, how they express this, calming skills
- favourites (TV programmes, hobbies, books, songs, sports)

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NCEA explained in NZSL

Share this is a brief animated overview of The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) with parents who communicate using New Zealand Sign Language.



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/XoVxNJLDsX8>

No captions or transcript

Source:

[NZQA \(NZ\)](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoVxNJLDsX8>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoVxNJLDsX8&ab_channel=ShawleyCommunityPrimarySchool

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Useful information for parents



The family book: Te pukapuka o nga whānau

Read time: 125 min

An introduction to services and supports for families and whānau of children who are hard of hearing.

[Download](#) PDF



New Zealand Federation for Deaf Children Inc.

This website includes videos, access to specialist support and practical tips and strategies for families.

Publisher: Deaf Children New Zealand Tamariki Turi o Aotearoa

[Visit website](#)

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