

# Understand the identity, culture, and language of each student

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Value what each student brings ' from the

Guide: Inclusive classroom culture

**Includes:** Know your learner

Seek to understand a learner's culture

Work in partnership with ākonga

Take time to build relationships

Find out where students are from

Useful resources

From

Guide: Developing an inclusive classroom culture

Strategy: Value what each student brings

Suggestion: Understand the identity, culture, and language of each student

Date

29 August 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/developing-an-inclusive-classroom-culture/understand-the-identity-culture-and-language-of-each-student

# **Know your learner**

Linda Ojala describes how she designs learning that works for all students.



Video hosted on Vimeo http://vimeo.com/100662380 Closed Captions

#### Source:

Ministry of Education, inclusive education videos (NZ) https://vimeo.com/showcase/2950799

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## Seek to understand a learner's culture

Six rangatahi who identify as deaf communicate their aspirations.



Video hosted on Youtube http://youtu.be/\_4Zk4WDJkhs Closed Captions

#### Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga (NZ) https://youtu.be/\_4Zk4WDJkhs

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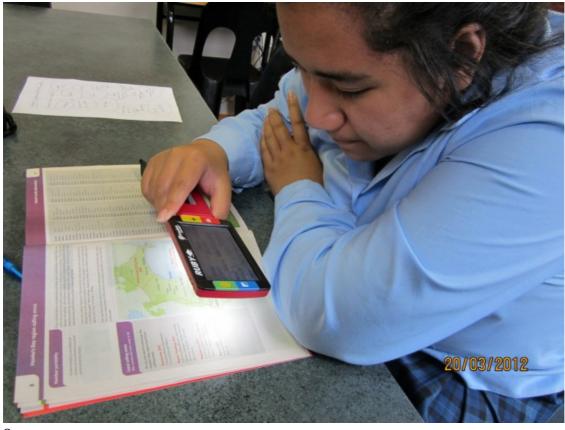
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# Work in partnership with ākonga



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

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# Take time to build relationships

Liz Crisp of Mangere Bridge School talks about finding connections with students.



Video hosted on Vimeo http://vimeo.com/111163911

**View transcript** 

#### Source:

Pasifika Education Community TKI (NZ) https://pasifika.tki.org.nz/Media-gallery/Effective-teaching-for-Pasifikastudents/Building-relationships

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and-language-of-each-student

## Find out where students are from

Create intentional and ongoing opportunities for students to share where they are from, what is important to them and why.

Consider a range of activities that give learners the opportunity to share about their origins, iwi, hupu or whānau connection:

- Whakapapa interviews
- Creating pepeha
- Creating connections through stories, art, dance, and drama.

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## **Useful resources**



## Knowing all students

Information to support teachers with knowing their learners so they can help them recognise their competencies, demonstrate their strengths, and work towards their aspirations.

Visit website



### Pepeha

Read time: 7 min

This Junior Journal article explains what a pepeha is and why it is important in Māori culture.

Publisher: Literacy Online

**Visit website** 

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