

Identify and plan how to meet students' learning support needs

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Strategically resourcing for inclusive practices' from the Guide: [Leading inclusive schools](#)

-
- Includes:**
- Get the right people around the table
 - Deepen understanding of learning needs
 - Use circles of evidence
 - Make informed decisions
 - Use a range of tools
 - Record and share information

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Leading schools that include all learners](#)

Strategy: [Strategically resourcing for inclusive practices](#)

Suggestion: [Identify and plan how to meet students' learning support needs](#)

Date

22 June 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/leading-schools-that-include-all-learners/identify-and-plan-how-to-meet-students-learning-support-needs

Get the right people around the table

Establish a team with the knowledge and skills to support student learning and wellbeing, and set regular times to communicate.

- ✓ ākonga
- ✓ whānau
- ✓ class or home room teachers
- ✓ teacher aides
- ✓ in-school learning support staff, for example, the Learning Support Coordinator, support worker, SENCO or dean
- ✓ external Learning Support services, for example, RTLB, SLT, OT, BLENNZ
- ✓ external specialists
- ✓ other significant external support people, if appropriate, such as church or club leaders.

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Leading schools that include all learners](#)

Strategy: [Strategically resourcing for inclusive practices](#)

Suggestion: [Identify and plan how to meet students' learning support needs](#)

Date

22 June 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/leading-schools-that-include-all-learners/identify-and-plan-how-to-meet-students-learning-support-needs

Deepen understanding of learning needs

Kohikohi – Gathering information to deepen understanding

Least intrusive, most inclusive



New Zealand Government

Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

<https://hepikorua.education.govt.nz/>

[View full image \(259 KB\)](#)

A culture of care depends on kaiako pre-empting or noticing when a child or group of learners may require specific support on their learning journey.

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Leading schools that include all learners](#)

Strategy: [Strategically resourcing for inclusive practices](#)

Suggestion: [Identify and plan how to meet students' learning support needs](#)

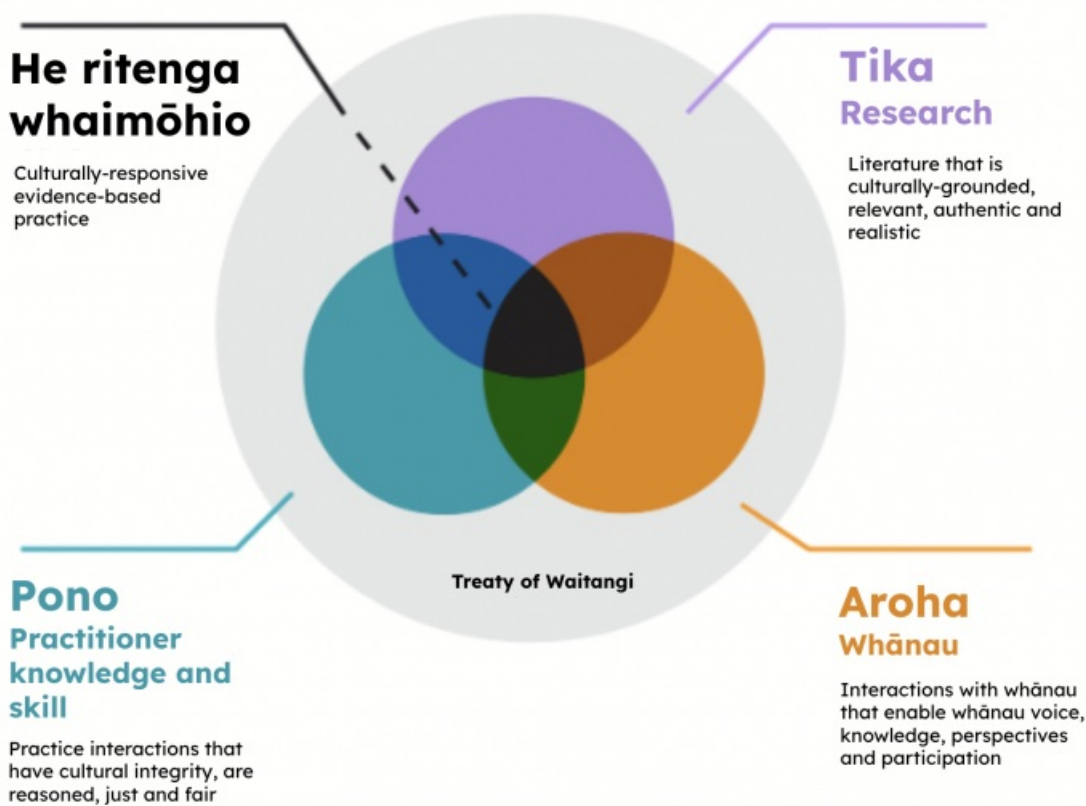
Date

22 June 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/leading-schools-that-include-all-learners/identify-and-plan-how-to-meet-students-learning-support-needs

Use circles of evidence



Source:

Adapted from He Pikorua in action, Ministry of Education

<https://hepikorua.education.govt.nz/he-pikorua/kohikohi-gather-information#circles-of-evidence129>

[View full image \(325 KB\)](#)

Use multiple perspectives when you gather information. Circles of evidence involves 3 key components: whānau, practitioner expertise and research (Macfarlane and Macfarlane, 2013).

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Leading schools that include all learners](#)

Strategy: [Strategically resourcing for inclusive practices](#)

Suggestion: [Identify and plan how to meet students' learning support needs](#)

Date

22 June 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/leading-schools-that-include-all-learners/identify-and-plan-how-to-meet-students-learning-support-needs

Make informed decisions

Analyse information from a variety of sources to identify student needs and coordinate support across the school.

- ✓ Take a team approach to enrich understanding of data.
- ✓ Design your information collection to include multiple perspectives, types of information and voices.
- ✓ Include the learner, their whānau and wider support team as well as the Learning Support Coordinator, if you have one.
- ✓ Use ethical means of data collection and seek approval when appropriate.
- ✓ Maintain privacy of data and apply privacy policies when using sensitive information.
- ✓ Make it easier to understand and share data, using graphs, charts and infographics.
- ✓ Split data by groups to inform school resourcing or PLD needs.
- ✓ Establish processes and timelines for reporting to groups such as the school board, whānau, students and other stakeholders.

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Leading schools that include all learners](#)

Strategy: [Strategically resourcing for inclusive practices](#)

Suggestion: [Identify and plan how to meet students' learning support needs](#)

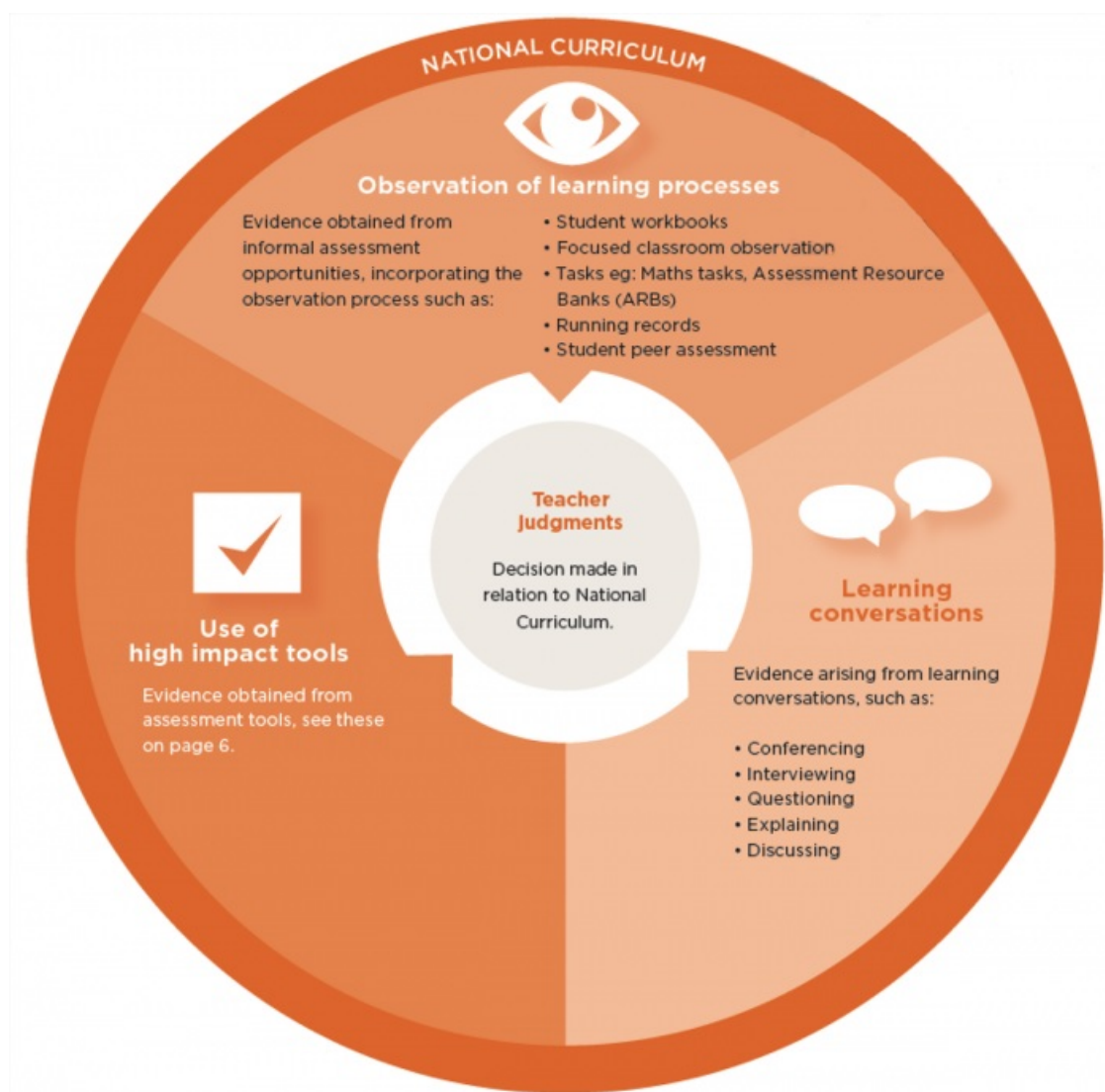
Date

22 June 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/leading-schools-that-include-all-learners/identify-and-plan-how-to-meet-students-learning-support-needs

Use a range of tools



Source:

NZ Curriculum Online

<https://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Strengthening-local-curriculum/Leading-local-curriculum-guide-series/Assessment-for-learning>

[View full image \(351 KB\)](#)

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Leading schools that include all learners](#)

Strategy: [Strategically resourcing for inclusive practices](#)

Suggestion: [Identify and plan how to meet students' learning support needs](#)

Date

22 June 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/leading-schools-that-include-all-learners/identify-and-plan-how-to-meet-students-learning-support-needs

Record and share information

John Robinson reflects on the value of using the SMS to share information about students between staff and using e-portfolios to share information with parents.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/100662394>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Ministry of Education, inclusive education videos \(NZ\)](#)
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/2950799>

This information was downloaded/printed from the Ministry of Education's website "Inclusive Education". Except where otherwise noted it is Crown Copyright 2018.

Information on the Inclusive Education website is regularly updated so we recommend you check the website version of this information to ensure it remains current.