

Support collaborative planning and problem solving

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Leading learning to support inclusive practices' from the Guide: [Leading inclusive schools](#)

Includes:

- Avoid working in isolation
- Prioritise time for collaboration
- Foster a collaborative learning culture
- Make time for collaborative planning
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

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

Strategy: [Leading learning to support inclusive practices](#)

Suggestion: [Support collaborative planning and problem solving](#)

Date

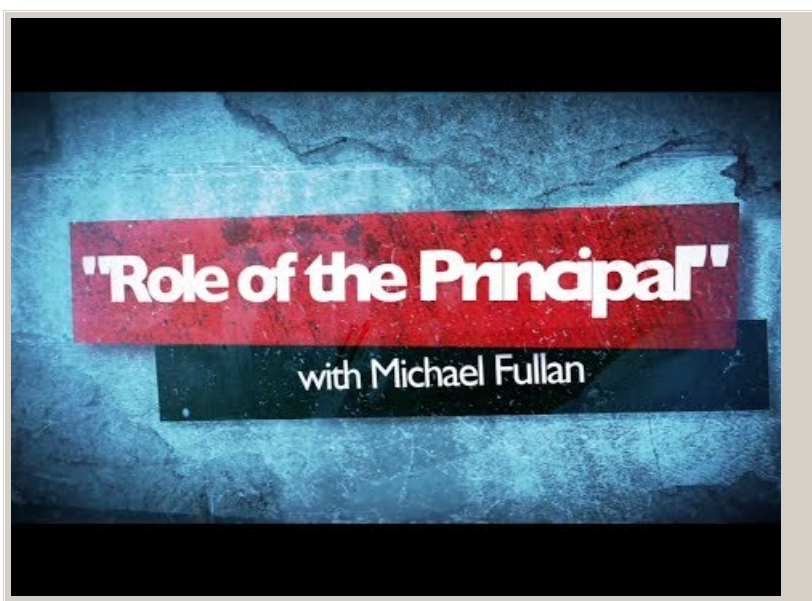
11 July 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/leading-schools-that-include-all-learners/support-collaborative-planning-and-problem-solving

Avoid working in isolation

Michael Fullan believes today's principals don't work in isolation – they collaborate and learn within their school and among other schools.



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/z6dgYHOCB40>

No captions or transcript

Source:

[Michael Fullan \(YouTube\)](#)

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Prioritise time for collaboration

Create opportunities for all staff to learn with and from each other. Include part-time staff, teacher aides, support staff, or staff in visiting roles to strengthen their understanding of the school's inclusive vision.

If you value staff you have to find time for them to think and talk. You have to find clever ways for teachers to be released to have professional conversations, for example, so that teachers can meet regularly with their teacher aides. The payoffs are massive.

Andrew Morrall, Principal, Rolleston Primary School

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Foster a collaborative learning culture

School leadership teams support collaborative learning cultures when they:

- ✓ emphasise to teachers that they can succeed – together
- ✓ expect teachers to keep their knowledge and skills up-to-date
- ✓ share decision-making and prepare others to lead
- ✓ make data accessible
- ✓ teach and model discussion and decision-making skills
- ✓ provide teachers with the research
- ✓ take time to build trust.

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Make time for collaborative planning

“It’s amazing what people can do when you stop telling them what to do.” Leaders from Manurewa Central School talk about making better decisions through genuine collaboration, power sharing and valuing of staff contributions.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/221214554>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Education Review Office \(Vimeo\)](#)

<https://vimeo.com/221214554>

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Useful resources



Promoting collaborative learning cultures

In this article, Michael Fullan’s idea of “purposeful peer interaction” is explained. This is where information and knowledge are shared openly, and when monitoring mechanisms are installed to detect ineffective actions and identify effective practices.

Publisher: Educational Leaders

[Visit website](#)



Gary Punler: Deprivatising practice

In this video, Principal Gary Punler describes why is it important for schools to have a process in place to facilitate teachers meeting and sharing ideas.

[Visit website](#)



Networks of Expertise

List of subject associations and other peer-to-peer networks which support teachers and kaiako.

[Visit website](#)



Regionally-allocated PLD

How to apply for PLD funding for your school, kura, kāhui ako or cluster. Allocation decisions are made by regional allocation panels.

Publisher: Ministry of Education NZ

[Visit website](#)

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