

Provide ongoing discussion opportunities for parents and whānau

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Work with parents and whānau' from the

Guide: ILEs

Includes: Identify community needs

Communica­tion approaches

Parent workshops

Communicate regularly

Useful resources

From

Guide: Planning innovative learning environments (ILEs)

Strategy: Work with parents and whanau

Suggestion: Provide ongoing discussion opportunities for parents and whānau

Date

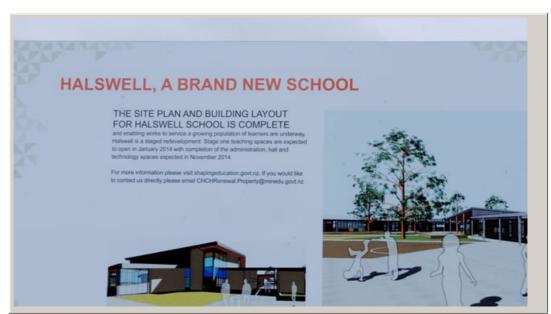
29 August 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/planning-innovative-learning-environments-iles/provide-ongoing-discussion-opportunities-for-parents-and-whanau

Identify community needs

Halswell School involved the community from the outset in developing their ILE. **Parent** input was sought and fed into the architect's design brief.



Video hosted on Vimeo http://vimeo.com/142813492 Closed Captions

Source:

Enabling e-Learning (NZ)

https://elearning.tki.org.nz/Leadership/Leading-e-Learning/Planning-the-new-build-a-school-and-community-partnership

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Communication approaches

Use a range of communication options.

- ✓ Welcome parents, whānau, and teachers to regular shared breakfasts in the staffroom to discuss ideas, concerns and updates.
- ✓ Have an open-door policy, where parents and whānau are welcome to visit classes at any time and sit in on the learning.
- ✓ Plan and advertise specific open-classroom days when parents and whānau are welcome to chat to students about their thoughts and experiences of working in an ILE.
- ✓ Include regular updates and information explaining the changes in your newsletters.
- ✓ Develop a FAQ webpage, where all the questions people have asked are collated and responses to each one are added.
- ✓ Plan multiple parent evening meetings.

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Parent workshops

When we started our ILE journey, we had lots of questions from parents about what it was, what it would mean, and how it would work. We held a number of parent workshops and meetings to talk it all through. We also made some videos for those who weren't able to come to the meetings.

Source:

Pegasus Bay School http://www.pegasusbay.school.nz/

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Communicate regularly

Parent, Kirsten explains, "Leah felt that Linda was including us. It wasn't just she went to school and was in a classroom for 5 hours. She knew that Linda was talking to us."



Video hosted on Vimeo http://vimeo.com/186356935

Closed Captions

Source:

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

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Useful resources

Videos, useful websites, and research on connecting with parents, whānau, and the community.



Grow Waitaha: Perspectives and partnerships

A series of videos, useful websites, and links to research and readings to support schools connecting with parents, whānau, and the community as they develop an ILE.

Visit website

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