

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Planning innovative learning environments \(ILEs\)](#)

Strategy: [Work with parents and whānau](#)

Suggestion: [Welcome parent and community input of support, expertise, and resources](#)

Date

07 June 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/planning-innovative-learning-environments-iles/welcome-parent-and-community-input-of-support-expertise-and-resources

Value parental knowledge

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

- ✓ Consider furniture options and physical supports that work well (for example, chairs, table heights).
- ✓ Assimilate known interests, such as favourite colours, sports, and music, into the class.
- ✓ Identify successful calming strategies and replicate these (for example, objects, cushions, dark spaces).
- ✓ Align eating and personal routines with what happens at home.
- ✓ Consider visuals that can be used both at home and school to support understanding.
- ✓ Invite families to bring objects and items from home that are meaningful and offer support for their children.
- ✓ Engage in conversations to identify potential barriers and ask families for solutions based on their personal experiences and expertise.
- ✓ Use phrases and communication techniques that are effective and successful at home.

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