

Explore future options

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Help students build a vision for life' from the

Guide: Preparing students to leave school

Includes: Explore local social, recreation and leisure options

Get career ideas

Offer whole-school career and tertiary study options

Explore study and training options

Explore Māori and Pasifika trades training

Explore supported living and community options

From

Guide: Preparing students to leave school Strategy: Help students build a vision for life

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29 August 2025

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inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/preparing-students-to-leave-school/explore-future-options

Explore local social, recreation and leisure options

Give students extended opportunities to explore social, recreation and leisure activities as part of a fully inclusive life in the community.

- ✓ Identify possible community mentors for students.
- Connect with local community, sport and recreation groups. Visit and try a variety of activities to see if they suit the student.
- ✓ Identify and practise ways of maintaining connections with whānau and friends.
- ✓ Investigate groups with common interests.
- ✓ Use local council resources such as libraries and youth groups.
- ✓ Try out age appropriate options such as gigs, shows and concerts.
- ✓ Connect with national groups that provide recreational activities such as Recreate NZ.

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Get career ideas

Careers NZ suggests 4 ways for students to get career ideas.

- Chat with whanau.
- Go to career expos.
- Use online tools like CareerQuest.
- Get inspired by stories.



Video hosted on Youtube http://youtu.be/oT2NEKSD1uI Closed Captions

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Offer whole-school career and tertiary study options

Use government and community resources to help students explore options available to them.

- Gateway Supports school students' transition into the workforce by offering them workplace learning while at secondary school.
- Secondary Tertiary Alignment Resource (STAR) funding to support work experience opportunities that facilitate a smooth transition to further education, training or employment.
- Youth Guarantee Scheme Initiatives to improve young peoples' transition from school to further study, training and employment. Includes the Profile Builder to track progress in NCEA towards Vocational Pathways.
- Careers NZ Career education programmes and NCEA subjects to support the choices.
- Rangatahi Futures A youth career education programme that supports Māori learners to explore career understandings in culturally affirming ways.
- School Leavers' Toolkit Practical advice and resources for school leavers.
- Inspiring the Future Aotearoa At Inspiring the Future events, young people hear from volunteer role models about their jobs and why they love doing them.

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Explore study and training options

Choose courses, apprenticeships or training based on the work and experiences you're looking for.
Consider wānanga, universities, polytechnics, private training establishments (PTEs), industry training organisations and other options.



Video hosted on Youtube http://youtu.be/oM-2l1TRIaY Closed Captions

Source:

Study and training options – School Leavers Toolkit https://school-leavers-toolkit.education.govt.nz/en/tertiary-education/study-and-training-options/

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Explore Māori and Pasifika trades training

Providing culturally specific options recognises the diverse contexts from which we all come.

Ensure students know about local Māori and Pasifika trades training programmes.



Video hosted on Youtube http://youtu.be/ueokVkR96lo Closed Captions

Source:

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (NZ) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ueokVkR96lo&feature=youtu.be

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Explore supported living and community options

Supported living and community residential support services assist disabled people to live independently in a safe and appropriate environment.

Eligibility and allocation of supported living and community residential support are based on a needs assessment. Supported living provides people with support for individual tasks, usually when they are in their own home.

Community residential support services enable people to live in a home-like setting in their community while receiving support for up to 24 hours a day.

For more information see:

Needs assessment services – Whaikaha Ministry of Disabled People

Housing and living options – Whaikaha Ministry of Disabled People

Logan's journey to new happiness – NZ Down Syndrome Association

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