

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting Pacific learners](#)

Strategy: [Establish reciprocal relationships with families](#)

Suggestion: [Create a welcoming environment where parents and families can openly discuss concerns](#)

Date

11 June 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-pacific-learners/create-a-welcoming-environment-where-parents-and-families-can-openly-discuss-concerns

Ideas to support parental engagement

Considerations for engaging Pacific parents.

- ✓ Face-to-face communication is an important part of personalising engagement.
- ✓ Parents may not be confident speaking English. Find out whether you will need an interpreter or community liaison person before meeting.
- ✓ Create a welcoming environment, offer food and refreshments.
- ✓ Ask for the correct pronunciation of names when first meeting.
- ✓ Consider how to show respect to parents and family, for example, by dressing conservatively.
- ✓ Hold meetings in Pacific community venues where possible to make it easier for those parents who find the school environment challenging.
- ✓ Ask parents what times of the day work best for meetings.
- ✓ Identify a staff member as a key liaison person for Pacific families. Having a senior teacher (particularly in secondary schools) responsible for improving educational outcomes for Pacific learners indicates that their children's learning is seen as a priority.

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