

# Plan opportunities for students to collaborate

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Facilitate collaborative learning' from the Guide: [Positive peer relationships](#)

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## Includes:

- Collaborative writing tools
- What is tuakana-teina?
- Tuakana-teina in a primary school
- Offer leadership roles
- Encourage teamwork through PE
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting positive peer relationships](#)

Strategy: [Facilitate collaborative learning](#)

Suggestion: [Plan opportunities for students to collaborate](#)

Date

29 August 2025

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-positive-peer-relationships/plan-opportunities-for-students-to-collaborate](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-positive-peer-relationships/plan-opportunities-for-students-to-collaborate)

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## Collaborative writing tools

Kieran Moriarty, a teacher at Parkvale Primary School, talks about how his class use Google Docs to write.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/64591489>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Enabling e-Learning](#)

<https://elearning.tki.org.nz/Teaching/Curriculum-learning-areas/English/A-1-1-netbook-programme-makes-a-difference-for-all-learners>

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## What is tuakana-teina?

The concept of a tuakana-teina relationship.

The tuakana-teina relationship, an integral part of traditional Māori society, provides a model for buddy systems. An older or more expert tuakana (brother, sister or cousin) helps and guides a younger or less expert teina (originally a younger sibling or cousin of the same gender).

In a learning environment that recognises the value of ako, the tuakana-teina roles may be reversed at any time. For example, the student who yesterday was the expert on te wā and explained the lunar calendar may need to learn from her classmate today about how manaakitanga (hospitality) is practised by the local hapū.

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# Tuakana-teina in a primary school

Using a tuakana-teina approach, the older or more expert tuakana helps and guides the younger or less expert teina.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/61992804>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Enabling e-Learning](#)

<https://elearning.tki.org.nz/Teaching/Future-focused-learning/Digital-stories/Teaching-digital-stories-using-tuakana-teina>

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## Offer leadership roles



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

[View full image \(4.1 MB\)](#)

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# Encourage teamwork through PE

Social skills and collaborative teamwork are benefits of a balanced physical education programme.

- Select games that only succeed when a whole team works together, for example, [Ants on a log](#).
- Organise peer-to-peer support groups or buddies to ensure students needing extra support understand the game rules and their role in the team.
- Explain behavioral expectations from the beginning with visual supports such as pictures, diagrams, and a clear timetable of events.

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## Useful resources

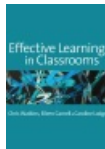


### 20 Collaborative learning tips and strategies for teachers

This is a list of ways to include best practices for collaborative learning in the classroom.

Publisher: TeachThought

[Visit website](#)



### Effective learning in classrooms

Read time: 302 min

This book is about learning in classrooms, what makes learning effective, and how it may be promoted in classrooms. Chapter seven outlines collaboration and effective learning.

Publisher: Paul Chapman Publishing

[Visit website](#)



### Teaching strategies for inclusive classrooms part 1: Cooperative learning

Read time: 3 min

Information to support setting up a successful cooperative learning programme in your classroom.

[Download PDF \(3.2 MB\)](#)

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