

Ensure safety and wellbeing | Haumarutanga

A suggestion for implementing the strategy

'Nurture whānau partnerships |

Whanaungatanga' from the Guide: [Te Ara Ako](#)

– [Learning pathways in times of change](#)

Includes:

Why this matters | Te take

Navigating new environments safely | Wāhi haumaru

Address sensory needs | Ngā matea tairongo

Access medical equipment | Ngā taputapu taituarā

Useful resources | He rauemi

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From

Guide: [Te Ara Ako – Learning pathways in times of change](#)

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Date

30 June 2026

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Why this matters | Te take



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Navigating new environments safely | Wāhi haumaruru

Navigating a new environment can be overwhelming. Seek clarity and regularly check in with whānau about their sense of security for their child.

- ✓ Identify and address whānau concerns about safety in the new environment well in advance.
- ✓ Provide whānau with information and solutions for safely navigating the new school. This includes pick-ups and drop-offs, start times, and important events.
- ✓ Provide information on class protocols for activities and outings.
- ✓ Ask for specific information about health needs, medication, and toileting requirements.

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Address sensory needs | Ngā matea tairongo

General guidelines for sensory safety:

- ✓ Start small: Observe, note triggers, and ask students and whānau what works for them.
- ✓ Use visuals, sensory profiles, or routines to prepare students for changing environments.
- ✓ Ensure emergency procedures (for example, fire alarms, lockdowns) are explained in advance with clear supports in place.
- ✓ Reflect regularly: Is the environment enhancing or overwhelming this learner's hauora?

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Access medical equipment | Ngā taputapu taituarā



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Useful resources | He rauemi



Health and safety plans

Sometimes a young person may need a specific support plan to maintain wellbeing and safety.

Publisher: Ministry of Education NZ

[Download](#) DOCX (22 KB)



Health care plans

This is a printable example of a health care plan that can be tailored to ākongā needs.

Publisher: Ministry of Education NZ

[Download](#) DOCX (32 KB)



Aramai He Tētēkura – A guide to prevent distress and minimise the use of physical restraint

These guidelines can be tailored, in partnership with whānau, to meet the needs of ākongā.

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