

# Prepare and support teaching staff | Te whakarite kaimahi

A suggestion for implementing the strategy  
'Working as a team | He whānau kotahi tātou'  
from the Guide: [Te Ara Ako – Learning  
pathways in times of change](#)

---

## **Includes:**

Whakataukī

Why this matters | Te take

Identify bias | Te tautohu haukume

Arrange additional training and support | He whakangungu anō

Useful resources | He rauemi

Inclusive Education

From

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

Strategy: [Working as a team | He whānau kotahi tātou](#)

Suggestion: [Prepare and support teaching staff | Te whakarite kaimahi](#)

Date

15 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako)

---

## Whakataukī

## [Inclusive Education](#)

From

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

Strategy: [Working as a team | He whānau kotahi tātou](#)

Suggestion: [Prepare and support teaching staff | Te whakarite kaimahi](#)

Date

15 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako)

---

## Why this matters | Te take



[View full image \(28 KB\)](#)

## Inclusive Education

From

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

Strategy: [Working as a team | He whānau kotahi tātou](#)

Suggestion: [Prepare and support teaching staff | Te whakarite kaimahi](#)

Date

15 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako)

---

# Identify bias | Te tautohu haukume

Whānau often face many social barriers and biases towards them and their child. Reflect on your own biases and address any concerns from staff.

Consider:

- What biases or barriers do staff have about new ākongā?
- Do they have adequate information? Have they met whānau?
- Offer self-reflection tools for teaching and support staff to uncover hidden biases.
- Are there other students or families with a bias towards new ākongā? How will this be addressed?
- Social stories for other ākongā may help build community and understanding.
- "Words create worlds" – be mindful of the language you use in your class. Words can limit or enhance the possibilities for ākongā.

## Inclusive Education

From

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

Strategy: [Working as a team | He whānau kotahi tātou](#)

Suggestion: [Prepare and support teaching staff | Te whakarite kaimahi](#)

Date

15 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako)

---

# Arrange additional training and support | He whakangungu anō

- ✓ Some staff may require additional training to use assistive technology software and devices.
- ✓ There is extra support available online via the [Ministry of Education learning support](#).
- ✓ Training resources, such as [Tilting the Seesaw](#), enable the teaching team to support ākonga with autism and their whānau.
- ✓ Some parents of other children in the school may need education and information about community building, supporting new ākonga, and being inclusive.
- ✓ Provide information and dialogue for other children about their new classmate in open, practical and reciprocal ways.

## Inclusive Education

From

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

Strategy: [Working as a team](#) | [He whānau kotahi tātou](#)

Suggestion: [Prepare and support teaching staff](#) | [Te whakarite kaimahi](#)

Date

15 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/te-ara-ako-learning-pathways-in-times-of-change/prepare-and-support-teaching-staff-te-tautoko-i-nga-kaiako)

---

## Useful resources | He rauemi



### Training opportunities for autism

Autism NZ offers courses that prepare the teaching team in supporting ākonga with autism.

Publisher: Autism NZ

[Visit website](#)



### STPDS programme

Support teacher practice for students with learning delays and Down Syndrome. STPDS offers workshops and seminars to support inclusive teaching practice in all curriculum areas.

Publisher: STPDS

[Visit website](#)



### Self-reflection tool

This reflective practice sheet guides kaiako in developing awareness about their assumptions and biases before transition begins. You may find it useful to complete as part of a teaching team or as part of a sense-making conversation.

Publisher: Ministry of Education NZ

[Download](#) DOCX (33 KB)

This information was downloaded/printed from the Ministry of Education's website "Inclusive Education". Except where otherwise noted it is Crown Copyright 2018.

Information on the Inclusive Education website is regularly updated so we recommend you check the website version of this information to ensure it remains current.