

# Identify areas where students may need additional support

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Review planning, monitoring, and reporting obligations' from the Guide: [The role of school boards](#)

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## **Includes:**

- Identify learning needs
- Develop a learning support register
- Utilise technologies to share information
- Review National Education Learning Priorities (NELP) requirements
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [The role of school boards](#)

Strategy: [Review planning, monitoring, and reporting obligations](#)

Suggestion: [Identify areas where students may need additional support](#)

Date

04 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/the-role-of-school-boards/identify-areas-where-students-may-need-additional-support](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/the-role-of-school-boards/identify-areas-where-students-may-need-additional-support)

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## Identify learning needs

Identify learning needs of students who require additional support.

### Students working at or above the curriculum level for their age

- Students who need teaching adaptations and/or individualised support to access the curriculum and achieve at or above the curriculum level.
- They are likely to have access to a range of special education services and resources.

### Students working at level one of the curriculum for most (possibly all) of their schooling

- Some students will learn within level 1 for most of their schooling in some or all of the learning areas.
- Others may not be learning at the same level as most of their peers but are learning within levels 1–8.
- An individual student may be working at different curriculum levels across different learning areas.
- Regardless of the level, all learning must be valued and recognised as progress.
- These students are likely to have Individual Education Plans and may be the recipients of ORS funding.

### Students who need additional support to work at the curriculum level for their age

- Students who need effective teaching and accelerated teaching programmes to access the curriculum and achieve at the curriculum level for their age.
- They are likely to need short-term access to some special education services and resources.

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# Develop a learning support register

Suggestions for developing a register and monitoring student progress.

- ✓ Be clear about its purpose, how it will be used, how its information will be confidentially shared, and how and by whom it will be managed.
- ✓ Decide how you will identify students who need additional support and who, from within or outside the school, can help with assessing student needs.
- ✓ Identify students within your school management system, if it supports this.
- ✓ Use your register to coordinate support across the school. Focus on learning needs to meet the goals in the curriculum, to achieve NCEA, social and emotional support, and support students and parents might need at home.
- ✓ Think beyond the student to wider school changes that can be made to support learning, such as professional learning and development, inclusive teaching approaches, and cross-school programmes and initiatives.
- ✓ Establish a process and timeframe for monitoring and evaluating the progress of each student on the register.
- ✓ Avoid negative or disparaging language when identifying and writing about students with special education needs.

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## Utilise technologies to share information

John  
Robinson  
reflects on  
maximising  
the  
potential of  
the SMS  
and  
ePortfolios.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/100662394>

Closed Captions

Source:

Ministry of Education, Inclusive Education videos (NZ)  
<https://vimeo.com/album/2950799>

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# Review National Education Learning Priorities (NELP) requirements

From 1 January 2023, the new strategic planning and reporting framework was introduced, and the National Education Goals and National Administration Guidelines were removed. The then new planning and reporting framework has a clear link to the NELP and will require schools and kura to show how they've reflected the NELP in their 3-year strategic plans.

Each board, through the principal and staff, is required to, on the basis of good quality assessment information, identify students and groups of students:

- who are not achieving
- who are at risk of not achieving
- who have diverse learning needs (including gifted and talented students), and
- aspects of the curriculum which require particular attention.

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## Useful resources



### Wellbeing for success: A resource for schools

Read time: 34 min

Wellbeing for success: A resource for schools has been developed to help schools evaluate and improve student wellbeing.

[Visit website](#)

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