

Supporting Young People to Participate in the New Zealand Curriculum Refresh

Information Sheet

What is the kaupapa?

Over the next five years, the Ministry of Education [MOE] is undertaking a refresh of the 'The New Zealand Curriculum'. It's vital that all ākonga experience a sense of wellbeing and belonging in their schooling. This refresh will support teachers to design curriculum that fits the uniqueness of every learner - so that every child's progress and achievement is responded to and celebrated.

We want to ensure that the voices of children and young people are heard in the Refresh of the New Zealand Curriculum.

The goals for 'The New Zealand Curriculum' refresh and for teaching and learning are to:

- Honour our mutual obligations to and through Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Create curriculum that is inclusive so that all ākonga see themselves, and succeed in their learning
- Make sure 'The New Zealand Curriculum' is clear about the learning that matters
- Make sure 'The New Zealand Curriculum' is easy to use for teachers.

You can find out more about the Curriculum Refresh here [Refreshing The New Zealand Curriculum – Education in New Zealand](#)

The New Zealand Curriculum is a policy document for teachers and school leaders in Aotearoa New Zealand. It provides guidance for what should be taught and when it should be taught to students. It is distinct from the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) - the main national qualification for secondary school students in New Zealand. Although the two programmes of work are aligned, this Kaupapa does not include NCEA.

Who are we looking for?

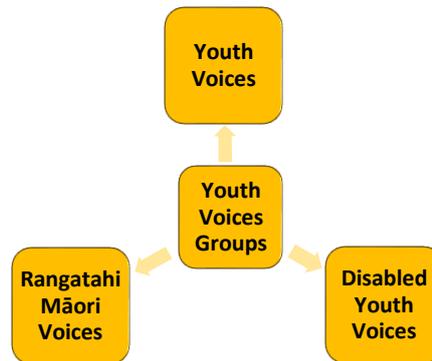
We are seeking to hear from young people between 15-17 (as at October 1st 2022) who would like to participate in the development of the refreshed curriculum. This is called an expression of interest [EOI]. There are instructions for how to do this at the end of this information sheet.

We want to ensure that these young people are well supported to participate and to have their voices heard. To do this we are looking for young people who will be supported to participate by community organisations, iwi, schools and/or advocacy organisations.

These young people will be supported to join one of three voices groups which will inform and contribute to the Curriculum refresh:

- **Youth Voices** 8-10 young people from diverse backgrounds and communities with a specific focus on Pacific,
- **Rangatahi Māori** 8-10 rangatahi Māori from diverse backgrounds and communities, including mainstream, kura and alternative or informal education.

- **Disabled Youth** 8-10 young people from diverse backgrounds and communities who live with a disability.



Across the three groups there will be deliberate focus on recruiting rainbow youth, care experienced young people, young people living in rural communities, and young people with informal and non-formal education experience.

What will the groups do?

Once the groups are established, we will work with them to develop their group kawa which will include how they will participate, the support they require, and the design of the sessions. We will also discuss with them the involvement that they wish to have with wider engagement and other groups which have been established to participate in the Curriculum Refresh.

The following are examples of what young people could be involved in:

- Design (with the support of OCC and MOE) the wider youth engagement(s) and how the young people want to be involved.
- Review and discuss the insights from engagements and provide recommendations to the Ministry of Education.
- Design the process for sharing information about the refresh with other young people in New Zealand
- Provide feedback and insights on specific pieces of design and development work throughout the Curriculum Refresh- for example, the Vision for Young People.
- Opportunities to share their own diverse experiences and perspectives.

Koha:

- Each young person will be given a voucher to purchase kai when they participate in online hui
- Each young person will receive \$200 koha for their participation in the 8 hui.
- We also have some funding where needed to assist community organisations to support young people to be involved.

We will also cover all travel, accommodation and resources for young people to be able to participate in the hui. For disabled young people we may be able to fund support carers, please let us know if this will be required.

Timelines:

- We will notify those with successful EOI's in mid October. We will continue to work with those who are unsuccessful to ensure that your young people can have their voices heard in the wider engagements.
- We will convene the groups for the first time in Early December
- These groups will be established for a two-year duration (we understand that your young person may not wish to be involved for that long, we are happy to discuss this on a case-by-case basis and options for them to be replaced by younger ākonga).

Expectations for those supporting young people to participate:

- Have an established relationship with the young person that you nominate from your organisation, iwi, or school.
- Have an ongoing relationship with the young person for the duration of their participation in the Voices group
- Be available to attend online meetings with the Office of the Children's Commissioner/ Ministry of Education where needed
- Check in regularly with the young person to ensure that they have what they need to participate in the voices group and ensure that any concerns are raised with the facilitator/Office of the Children's Commissioner.
- Help us to ensure that they are happy!

Attendance at meetings:

- We are planning that there will be four online meetings and four in person meetings per year
- In person meetings will run over two days and will confirm the locations for these closer to the time. This will require the young person to stay a minimum of one night and therefore we will need your help to ensure we can support them appropriately.
- Online hui will be shorter; however, we acknowledge that the young person may require support to attend these.
- If a young person is unable to attend meetings on an on-going basis we may work with the community partner to seek an alternative nomination to ensure that the breadth of young people is effectively represented in a sustainable way.

Who will convene the groups?

- The groups will be facilitated by the Office of the Children's Commissioner with support provided by the Ministry of Education.

Please fill out the attached form with the young person you are nominating outlining your Expression of Interest to: educationvoices@occ.org.nz by Sunday 16th October 2022.

For any queries, please contact the Mai World Team educationvoices@occ.org.nz