



Combined Deaf Education Centres CHARTER 2019

SUMMARY



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Introductory Section

Who are we?

A Community of learning around the child



The provision of services for Deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) children in New Zealand is the responsibility of two Centres.

Kelston Deaf Education Centre (KDEC) provides services across the upper North Island including metropolitan Auckland while van Asch Deaf Education Centre (van Asch), covers the South Island and lower part of the North Island. Together both Centres support around 2,800 DHH learners .

Equal rights to primary and secondary education

Under the Education Act 1989, all children have the right to enrol at their local school:

“...people who have special educational needs (whether because of disability or otherwise) have the same rights to enrol and receive education at State schools as people who do not”

Education Act 1989 s(8) (1)

Over 2700 DHH children throughout New Zealand are enrolled at or receive services from the Deaf Education Centres. Together we employ nearly 400 staff who are employed by the Combined Board of Trustees.

Both Centres were established as special schools and operate a core/day school and residential facility and provide Early Childhood Services. They also offer a range of courses and services for parents/caregivers, schools and other professionals.

Specialist regional outreach roles include New Zealand Sign Language Tutors, Specialist Resource Teachers, Habilitationists, Audiologist, Hearing Aid technician.

Other Specialist services provided in local areas include Resource Teachers of the Deaf (RTDs), ASSIST staff, Communicators/Educational Interpreters.



Resourcing



Investing in the right support early on will help raise the achievements of our learners and improve their emotional and social wellbeing. Our work is underpinned by the National Plan Government's Learning Support guiding principles which aim to:

- Remove barriers to learning
 - Become involved earlier
 - Provide quality services
 - Monitor and evaluate our work and build a strong evidence base to improve what we do
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- Build and sustain productive partnerships with parents, whanau, schools and other professionals.

As a result, "Every day, children will learn and succeed because of the work we do."

Each year the Ministry of Education provides funding to the Combined Board so that each Centre can offer a range of services to support DHH and hard of hearing learners. The schools are funded in line with the principles that resource all schools. The additional early involvement, regional, specialist, resource centre and technical support services are funded on a yearly contract within the Resourcing Notice.

Working closely with the Ministry of Education, the Board strives to make the best use of its available resources to meet an ever-increasing demand on its services and the expectation of high achievement.

Data on Learner Demographics Needs, Achievement and the outcomes of specific programmes, will inform resourcing.



Our Mission and Vision

The Deaf Education Centres are a major provider of educational programmes and services to ...

- Raise and sustain the academic achievement of Deaf and Hard of Hearing learners in New Zealand.
- Promote the social, emotional health and wellbeing of Deaf and Hard of Hearing learners in New Zealand.

So that ... Deaf and Hard of Hearing students thrive in an environment where they...

Belong

- They feel valued in their community of learning.
- They can express individuality and diversity.
- Their whanau are involved.
- They are securely empowered and engaged.

Grow

- They are confident, life-long learners.
- They can actively participate in the world.
- They can assert their own social, academic and well-being progress.

Choose

- They access a full spectrum of communication means.
- They can participate in and influence decision making.
- They can choose a learning pathway that suits and is understood by whanau and schools.
- Their family and whanau can share and celebrate in decision making.

Excel

- They can participate and experience excellence in the New Zealand Curriculum.
- They will become self confident, contributing members of society.

... to ensure All Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in New Zealand will have the skills and knowledge necessary to enjoy fulfilling and satisfying lives.



STRATEGIC GOALS

2019



1. Develop a holistic progressive service for Deaf and hard of hearing learners that maximises educational, social and emotional outcomes and is accessible, equitable and efficient in its nationwide delivery.
2. Develop one new national organisational structure that enables excellent educational outcomes for Deaf and hard of hearing learners New Zealand wide.
3. Inform decisions, priorities, and resourcing by utilising data, evidence based best practice and research that underpin child centred values of Excel, Choose, Grow and Belong.
4. Lift individual and collective student wellbeing and achievement through high quality teaching and learning pathways.
5. Build and maintain strong, collaborative relationships with students, family/whānau, the Deaf community, the wider education community and other external stakeholders.
6. Use and manage resources to provide the maximum educational benefit for our learners.
7. Align property and infrastructure to support a nationwide service delivery model.

Our Services

Early Childhood

van Asch Deaf Education Centre

EIC

An Early Intervention Centre on-campus programme is provided for local families. The E.I.C. has a sessional license for up to 21 children per session and provides group parent and child sessions. Weekly individual parent-child communication sessions are also offered. The Centre follows the Te Whaariki Curriculum with an emphasis on communication development.

The E.I.C. is also accessed by families from across the region through Preschool Residential Courses that are provided throughout the school year. Ten courses per year are offered. Up to three families can attend each course.

The E.I.C. staff work closely with the AoDC, CI Habilitationists and First Signs Facilitator to provide a collaborative service for families.

Kelston Deaf Education Centre

Te Kura Maatua o Kerehana mo nga Tamariki Turi

Pre-school

The pre-school programme supports the development of spoken language and New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) in a bilingual and inclusive setting.

Those enrolled are children who are DHH their hearing siblings, Children of DHH Adults (CODAs), those with a connection to the adult DHH Community and children living in the local community.

The curriculum draws on the individual experiences of each child and their family to deliver a diverse cultural and linguistic programme consistent with the national Early Childhood Education (ECE) curriculum – Te Whariki. The programme is supported by adults who are fluent in English and New Zealand Sign Language, who work alongside children to promote confidence and competence in all languages.



Habilitation

van Asch Deaf Education Centre

van Asch is funded to employ Habilitationists. Habilitation services for children with cochlear implants are provided through a contract with the Southern Hearing Charitable Trust.

Habilitationists are based at the Southern Cochlear Implant Programme in Christchurch and Wellington. They also provide an outreach service to children's home areas and professional support to Teachers of the DHH and associated professionals who provide weekly habilitation.

Kelston Deaf Education Centre

Te Kura Maatua o Kerehana mō nga Tamariki Turi

Under a joint venture agreement through the Northern Cochlear Implant Trust, The Hearing House and KDEC are funded for habilitation staff to contribute to the delivery of ongoing monitoring, advice and guidance for cochlear implant recipients, between the ages of 5–18 years old.

While the joint venture has been in place for 10 years the contract for service is renewable annually.



School

The DHH learners enrolled at the Schools of van Asch and Kelston range in age from 5 -21 years.

Both Schools are the Specialist Service Provider for the ORS verified learners enrolled in the Schools. This designation enables the Board to provide specialist and paraprofessional staff to serve the needs of learners enrolled in the school.

| van Asch Deaf Education Centre | Kelston Deaf Education Centre <i>Te Kura Maatua o Kerehana mo nga Tamariki Turi</i> |
|---|--|
| <p>Satellite classes operate at Hagley Community College, Hillmorton High School and Wharenui Primary School in Christchurch. Core school enrolments come from throughout the region served by the Centre.</p> <p>Some school subjects are provided in the Satellite Unit by van Asch Teachers and in partnership with Te Kura. Some school subjects are accessed via the Host School class programmes where the Teacher of the DHH and support staff provide access and adaption support.</p> <p>All satellite and High School transition programmes integrate our Local Curriculum: Language, Literacy and Deaf Culture within the New Zealand Curriculum. The van Asch Deaf Education Centre School Curriculum January 2013 outlines the programmes provided.</p> <p>Every learner has unique needs so parents, caregivers, teachers, the learner, and specialists, where appropriate, meet biannually to review and develop goals for Individual Education Plans (IEPs).</p> <p>We are an Accredited provider for NZSL NCEA standards. Teachers of the Deaf based at the satellite units teach the standards to enrolled learners and hearing learners within the partnership agreement parameters.</p> <p>The Transition programme offers flexible programmes to meet learners specific educational and vocational needs while fostering independence and self-advocacy.</p> | <p>The KDEC School operates as a network of provisions in partnership with regular schools across the city of Auckland. The last of these provisions was opened on 7 February 2017.</p> <p>Learners in the KDEC School, partake fully in the New Zealand Curriculum. The teaching focus is on access and adaptation of the curriculum.</p> <p>The rebuild of the Archibald Road complex, which includes the Residential Hostel is now complete.</p> <p>A linked campus approach operates with partner schools in West Auckland: Kelston Boys High, Kelston Girls College, Kelston Intermediate and Kelston Primary.</p> <p>Likewise, a parallel campus approach exists in Auckland's South East at Ormiston Primary School, Ormiston Junior College and Ormiston Senior College.</p> <p>Oteha Valley School provides a partner Primary school on the North Shore of Auckland.</p> <p>Tu Kokiri provides a transitional programme for senior learners preparing for further study or employment.</p> <p>KDEC is NZQA accredited to teach and guide learners in the High School programmes at Kelston Boys, Kelston Girls, Ormiston Senior and Tu Kokiri successfully partake in NZQA learning pathways.</p> |

Residential

Each Centre has residential facilities to cater for those learners whose overall personal, social and educational needs cannot be met in their home area/local school.

Residential programmes enable up to 43 DHH learners to live in a safe and challenging environment that promotes their learning, development and independence through an integrated educational and residential programme.

At all times both Centres comply with the Education (Hostels) Regulations 2005.

van Asch Deaf Education Centre

The hostel license allows for up to 20 learners to be enrolled.

Residential homes are also used for assessment visits of regional learners and in-service and training programmes for parents/caregivers and associated support persons.

Regional learners use the residential facilities when attending short-term Immersion courses.

When not required for the Centre's own use, the facilities are used, on a cost recovery basis, for other education in-service or family programmes.

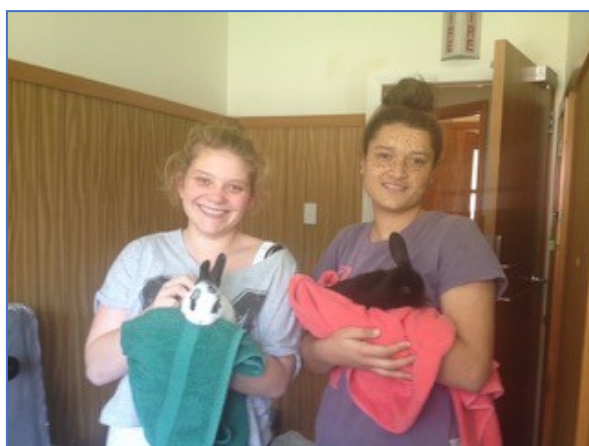
Kelston Deaf Education Centre

Te Kura Maatua o Kerehana mo nga Tamariki Turi

The KDEC hostel license allows for up to 23 learners to be enrolled.

The opening of the new Residential hostel has enabled KDEC to re-establish short term residential courses during 2017.

The admission criteria for full time enrolment are that the learner's IEP identifies that their education needs will best be met by residential placement, and that a suitable placement is available. Specific obligations are outlined in the KDEC Resourcing Notice.



Regional Services

Specialist Teaching\Advice and Guidance

The Centres' Regional Services are subject to special education policy and are available to DHH learners with moderate needs and those verified under the Ongoing Resource Scheme (ORS).

ORS specialist teacher components previously with the mainstream schools, are now incorporated into the regional specialist teaching services. This resource is reviewed and allocated on an annual basis.

A range of specialist support is provided via the RTD and Assist services:

RTD:

- Direct RTD Specialist inclusive teaching support
- Advice and guidance
- Regular monitoring to check progress is being maintained

ASSIST:

- Advice and guidance
- Regular monitoring to check progress is being maintained

Between 2013-2015 a sector shift was agreed to enable the Advisor on Deaf Children to focus on the Early Years for DHH and Hard of Hearing children and agreement for extended service provision by the two DEC's. Progressively since 2013 the Assessment and Involvement of a Specialist Teacher (ASSIST) has been the DEC's responsibility from year 4 onwards for non-verified learners, year 1 onwards for verified learners.

| van Asch Deaf Education Centre | Kelston Deaf Education Centre <i>Te Kura Maatua o Kerehana mō nga Tamariki Turi</i> |
|---|---|
| <p>The Regional Services are funded to provide Specialist Teaching and Advice and Guidance to DHH learners enrolled in a mainstream, attached satellite Unit or Special School across the South Island and lower half of the North Island.</p> <p>Specialist Teaching service is allocated to learners meeting the criteria for literacy, language support in an inclusive setting. This service is provided either by a Resource Teacher of the Deaf or qualified teacher based in the learner's local area. Both RTDs and staffing transfer teachers receive outreach/professional support from the Specialist Resource Teachers of Literacy, Sign Language and Speech-Language. NZSL tutors provide Sign Language tuition and awareness of Deaf Culture.</p> <p>All regional learners who receive services from the Centre are eligible for Assist Services that provide advice and guidance in relation to IEPs, transition, and hearing aid management and classroom strategies.</p> | <p>The Centre will deliver the specified range of advice and service options to eligible learners enrolled in state funded mainstream settings, to family/whanau, and the schools they attend.</p> <p>The Centre provides administrative and operational support for staff working regionally.</p> <p>Staff delivering the services, provide data to profile learner needs and to demonstrate service effectiveness.</p> <p>Staff liaise with other providers of services to eligible learners, and provide training and professional development to regional services staff involved in the provision of services to learners, their families, caregivers, whanau and schools.</p> |

Resource and Technical

van Asch Deaf Education Centre

van Asch's resource and technical services provide services for DHH pre-schoolers and learners from the time of diagnosis to the end of their compulsory education. These services are available to the families and whanau of DHH children and the staff in regular schools.

- The Centre maintains a media centre and library that provides curriculum support, extension resources, virtual learning and in-service training.
- van Asch provides Audiological assessment for learners enrolled in the school and learners attending assessment in residential programmes. Outreach paediatric audiological support to local audiologists is also offered as well as ongoing access to assistive listening services (including hearing aids and FM systems, plus the related fitting, repair and maintenance). The Audiologist works alongside the EIC and Specialist Resource teachers. Outreach support is provided to DHB Audiologists working with pre-schoolers and learners.

Kelston Deaf Education Centre

Te Kura Maatua o Kerehana mo nga Tamariki Turi

Resource and technical services are provided to DHH pre-schoolers and learners enrolled in the compulsory education sector. These include:

- On-going access to assistive listening services (including hearing aids and FM systems), plus the related fitting, repair and maintenance and technical support.
- Curriculum support and extension resources for learners, their families and whanau as well as the staff in regular schools.
- Residential and in-service training for the families and whanau of DHH children and staff in regular schools.

KDEC is funded to provide audiology services for learners enrolled in the dayschool and to maintain a resource centre and library. Both these facilities are available to families and whanau of DHH and hard of hearing children as well as the staff of regular schools throughout New Zealand.



Priority Learners

Te Rautaki Matauranga Maori – Maori Achievement Strategy

The Treaty of Waitangi is a founding document of New Zealand. As such, the Treaty is a crucial driver for the way the Board delivers services and engages with Tangata Whenua, Learners, Whanau and Iwi. The Board acknowledges that Iwi and Hapu have a constitutional interest in the effectiveness of service delivery to DHH learners. In order to meet its obligations and responsibilities under the Treaty of Waitangi, the Board has developed, adopted and implemented Te Rautaki Matauranga Maori.

van Asch Deaf Education Centre *Te Kura o van Asch mo nga Tamariki Turi*

In recognizing the unique position of Maori culture and language in New Zealand, van Asch Deaf Education Centre continues to enhance procedures and practices within all aspects of the Centre to raise achievement for Maori learners.

Through professional leadership and training, teaching and residential staff are reflecting on culturally responsive practices to engage the Maori Learner.

All Core School learners including Maori will be provided with opportunities to take part in Maori Tikanga, Te Reo and Maori Art activities.

A Specialist Resource Teacher, Maori/Kaitakawaenga supports learning opportunities in the Core School and supports engagement and consultation with Maori families of enrolled learners and those receiving services from across the van Asch Region.

Kelston Deaf Education Centre *Te Kura Maatua o Kerehana mo nga Tamariki Turi*

Te Rautaki Maori provides the overview, initiatives, steps, and actions through which the Principals and the Senior Management Team continue to identify and implement culturally responsive outputs that support Maori learners enjoying educational success and access to the rich cultural heritage of Aotearoa.

Ruaumoko Marae provides a cultural focal point for the delivery of Te Rautaki Matauranga Maori.

