



NZSL link: <https://vimeo.com/353928411/5c78effebd>

Deaf Education Centres **Improvements to Services - Update**

Kia ora koutou

As you know there are exciting changes happening in Deaf Education. We are exploring ways of improving how we deliver our services. We are doing this so that we can work more efficiently. This is to make sure that our support can be accessed fairly by all our deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) students no matter where they live.

Recently we told you about the Combined Board's plans to merge our two Deaf Education Centres. We have now appointed a team to look at service delivery and identify areas where we can work smarter. This matches the Ministry of Education's plan for a more holistic and networked approach to services.

The MoE Learning Support Action Plan 2019-2025 was announced during July by Associate Minister Tracey Martin.

Please click on the link below to see the Learning Support Delivery Model: six elements summary

https://vanaschdec-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/bmulcahybouwman_vanasch_school_nz/EfW27SipPQpLla_u96aMMFfEBBPkg_bQFHE9CwQK6-ZeqZw?e=xfS6Eu

Terri Johnstone, (LSM) and the Board Chair, have been leading the thinking about how we can improve service delivery. This thinking looked at the different needs and hopes of our students. It considered our students' different communication and learning pathways. The team also thought about the feedback that you gave us via surveys and focus groups since 2017. The team identified several areas where services could be improved.

They have identified a number of exciting service design ideas to lift student achievement and wellbeing. They include improvements to Specialist Teaching Services, Early Childhood Education, Deaf Bilingual pathways for enrolled students, Transition, and an exploration of Virtual Support for students.

These ideas were shared with the Ministry of Education in May of this year and with the new Board of Trustees in July.

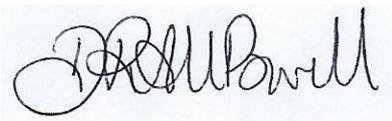
The MoE likes the work that has been done so far. They have identified two areas for us to look at further at this point. Therefore, the Principals (supported by the Board) will be setting up trials for two of these ideas:

- Virtual Deaf Education Programmes: Virtual Support that supports teaching and learning while promoting connection between students and with teachers
- Holistic Deaf Education Specialist Teaching Services for primary and secondary-aged deaf and hard of hearing students

The two six-month long exploratory trials, will be developed and delivered in one region. Evaluation of these pilots will be really important in deciding whether these service delivery proposals are effective and sustainable. They need to show that they lift student achievement and wellbeing.

We look forward to sharing more information with you soon.

Kind Regards



Denise Powell
Board Chair



Louise Roe
Acting Principal
Kelston DEC



Bernie Mulcahy-Bouwman
Principal
van Asch DEC