

Resource Teacher: Learning & Behaviour Service

December 2015

From the Editor



As you are aware, Anne Tuffin left the role of Project Manager (RTLB) with the Ministry of Education Special Education in July 2015. Since Anne leaving and me starting, Liz Sio-Atoa continued to do a sterling job of maintaining the connection between RTLB clusters and the Ministry. Our thanks go to Liz for her continued hard work on behalf of RTLB.

My first six weeks in the role of Principal Advisor (RTLB) has been both challenging and rewarding. Although I come from a background as both an RTLB and a cluster manager, I am confronted daily with queries from clusters that I have had to investigate further. I hope you have found the information I have shared through weekly newsletters helpful.

In term 4 we welcomed cluster managers Frederick Leonard (Cluster 37) and Zoe Young (Cluster 25) and the return of Chris Patten (Cluster 15) following a period of study leave. Lorraine McKay and Helen Pentecost have shared the role of manager while Cluster 29 progress through their appointment process.

Thank you for your continued hard work and commitment to the RTLB service and supporting teachers and schools manage the needs of children with additional learning needs. I wish you all a well deserved holiday break and look forward to working with most of you again in 2016.

Lianne Kalivati, Principal Advisor
Special Education Strategy

In this issue

- General Information
- For your calendars
- RTLB Strategic Plan
- RTLB Service Provision
 - RTLB National Satisfaction Survey
 - Inclusive Education Resources workshops
 - In-Class Support
 - Special Assessment Conditions (SAC)
 - Cluster Operational Funding
- Resources

General information



RTLB Enquiries mailbox

- for questions regarding the RTLB service, governance, management or service provision, please email RTLB.Enquiries@education.govt.nz

In-Class Support mailbox

- for queries regarding In-Class Support, please email In-Class.Support@education.govt.nz

Study awards

- for queries regarding study awards for RTLB, please email Zachary.Best@education.govt.nz

Special education and district office contacts

- for contact details and information of the [regional managers and district managers](#) in your district.

For your calendars



RTL B workforce data collections

The Term 4, 2015 qualitative report is due on **Friday 5 February 2016**. Please email this to Elizabeth.Sio-Atoa@education.govt.nz.

The quarterly quantitative ('case' and 'project') data collection will occur on **Friday 5 February 2016**.

Please work with your provider to ensure your cluster data is up-to-date and correctly entered ready for collection.

RTL B Lead School Forum Term 1, 2016

Tuesday 8 March – Lead school principals and cluster managers

Wednesday 9 March – Cluster managers only

Venue is at the Holiday Inn, Auckland Airport.

Registration and travel details are being organised by event organisers [CORE Education Ltd](#).

Cluster Manager Forum Term 3, 2016

A Cluster Manager forum is proposed for Term 3, Wednesday 10 August and Thursday 11 August.

Contact David Crickmer for more details davidc@twincoastrtlb.school.nz

Planning and Reporting Schedule

Strategic Plan and Annual Action Plan – these plans are due to be submitted to the Ministry with, and included in, the Lead School's Charter and planning documents on 1 March 2016.

Annual Report and Annual Financial Report – these reports are due to be submitted to the Ministry with the Lead School's Annual Report by 31 May 2016.

RTL B Online Toolkit

While we had hoped the online toolkit would be published before the end of this school year, circumstances have meant this has not been possible. We will do our best to ensure this resource will be available to clusters early in 2016. Cluster managers will be provided with a link to view the toolkit prior to online publication.

RTL B Strategic Plan

In light of the changes that are happening within special education, our RTL B team have had discussions with others in the Ministry on the need to establish a strategic direction for the RTL B service that builds on the important work of the last few years and develops a work programme that keeps the service moving forward, effective and adding value to the work of schools and others. While we have some ideas about how this might work, we see this being a joint initiative between the Ministry, cluster managers, lead school principals and other stakeholders. Currently there are mixed views on this approach. We would like to invite an initial group of cluster managers and lead school principals to come together in Wellington early in February to develop ideas for further discussion at the RTL B Lead School Forum in March 2016. It is important to have a range of perspectives represented at this meeting, so we suggest representation from the various Special Education regions. Please email Lianne.Kalivati@education.govt.nz

1. Your feedback on this initiative
2. Your interest in being involved in the initial group discussions in February.

Please note: You would not be committing to ongoing representation if you attend the initial meeting in February.

RTL B Service Provision

RTL B National Satisfaction Survey

The results of the National RTL B Satisfaction Survey 2015 (collected between 11 November and 23 November 2015) follow. A total of 1,802 people participated in the survey – 1,635 people completed the entire survey, 167 people completed part of the survey.

	Overall, how satisfied are you with the RTL B service provided?	Overall, did the RTL B service make a positive difference for student(s) and learning and behaviour needs?	Overall, has the RTL B service achieved ongoing improvement for the student(s)?
2015	88%	81%	78%
2014	88%	79%	76%
2013	84%	76%	71%

Inclusive Education Resources workshops



Judy Cochrane and Julie Roberts from the Ministry of Education have delivered workshops to 1,580 people in 20 locations since February 2015. The workshop has evolved over that time from covering an emphasis on planning for all learners and student voice.

As well as the themes of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and adaptations and differentiations, student voice has resonated with a lot of attendees. Each district included a different combination of RTLB, schools and Ministry staff in the workshops. Whatever the combination, RTLB were included in every workshop. The areas they have yet to cover are Rangiora, Ashburton, Dunedin and Central Otago, the Waikato and Manawatu/Wellington. Judy and Julie are having discussions with their managers at the moment about completing coverage of the country in 2016.

Judy and Julie trialed a “train the trainers” session with 60 RTLB and Ministry service managers in Auckland last month. Those 60 people have paired up and are planning to deliver their introductory workshop, plus some follow up coaching. Each pairing has identified a group to focus on, which might be other RTLB, Ministry staff, clusters of schools in their area, or groups of teachers within a school. If this model works well, they’re willing to consider more train the trainer sessions in other clusters.

Participants at the train the trainer session wanted to increase their confidence in UDL before they started delivering workshops. So a PLD session for them has been set up next year in Auckland looking at UDL. This session will include local illustrations, its application in secondary schools, and casting a cultural responsiveness lens across UDL.

From the evaluations, Judy and Julie are very confident that the workshops supported participants to engage with inclusive education resources and the key concepts of inclusive education within those resources. Assumptions and beliefs were challenged and shifted some from a ‘one-size-fits all’ mindset to planning for flexibility for all learners from the outset. There is only so much influence a one-day training session can have on practice. The real impact comes with real time, problem-based coaching and follow up, which is where RTLB have a key role. They are aware clusters have:

- spent a lot of time familiarising RTLB with the Inclusive Education website
- developed maps of the site to help people find things

- visited Silverstream School to observe the teacher in one of our videos
- delivered presentations on the website and how to find resources on the site
- used the website to build RTLB confidence in using technology
- grouped their secondary SENCO at the workshop on the day and this network has continued to use the new resources to support their work.

To give feedback on how RTLB have incorporated the new resources into their work with schools, please email Judy.Cochrane@education.govt.nz or Julie.Roberts@education.govt.nz

More information can be found on the [Inclusive Education website](#).

In-Class Support

Thank you to all the clusters for providing the names of your HLN students to your local Ministry of Education District Office in preparation for the 2016 school year.

If you have any questions please contact your district manager or email In-Class.Support@education.govt.nz

Special Assessment Conditions

Three RTLB cluster managers Kerrie Lomas, Eng Leong Lim, Paul Mitchell and Ministry SE&S National Manager Maori Service Provision Beau Reweti will be meeting in Wellington on 26 and 27 January 2016 to put together a kete of resources for clusters to support secondary schools with making applications for Special Assessment Conditions (SAC). Thank you to those clusters that have already forwarded resources to the team.

Please email any further items to Lianne.Kalivati@education.govt.nz prior to the 26th January. Resources could include, but not be limited to: student achievement tracking sheets; training packages for reader/writers; training packages for students likely to access reader/writer support; training packages for teaching staff on how to use the assessment tools; power point presentations used with SENCO; instruction sheets for making online applications etc.

Cluster Operational Funding

2016 funding notifications have been sent to all clusters.

Resources

Ministry of Education Library - selected highlights



EDUCATION LIBRARY

RTLB are able to access the Ministry of Education Library although the library will close on the 24th of December and will re-open on the 5th of January 2016.

To request a copy of any of the items below, send an email with the title of the article and your contact details to: education.library@education.govt.nz

Restlessness, resoluteness and reason: looking back at 50 years of Māori education, by Angus Hikairo Macfarlane.

New Zealand journal of educational studies 50 (2), 2015, p. 177-193 (article).

Presents an overview of education provision for Māori since the mid-1960s. Looks at key policies, events, government reports, and publications that had a major impact on the education system and Māori student achievement.

The 'critical friend' role in fostering reflective practices and developing staff cohesion: a case study in a new secondary school, New Zealand, by Noeline Wright & Amina Adam.

School leadership and management 35 (4), 2015, p. 441-457 (article).

Examines reflective practice through 'critical friend' roles among staff at a newly-established New Zealand secondary school. Looks at how the critical friendship approach linked to the school leaders' vision and aim regarding learning within open classroom spaces as part of a modern learning environment.

Making the curve, by Bonnie Hagemann.

Talent development 69 (10), 2015, p. 46-49 (article).

Advises managers on how to lead employees through organisational change efforts. Talks about modelling new behaviour, setting boundaries, giving feedback, celebrating success, and accepting limitations.

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