

Resource Teachers: Learning and Behaviour



28 June 2011

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We are about seven months out from implementing the transformed RTLB service alongside the school sector.

Two ways for you to keep up-to-date with the steps to February 2012 are via this newsletter and Te Kete Ipurangi <http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/Transforming-RTLb-service>

Update

- The turnout to regional meetings has been very good and these are nearly complete. Over the last two weeks the transformation team have been to many places in the South Island and central North Island. As cluster consultation is now winding up and it is only about seven months to implementation, momentum is building. RTLB and principals are beginning to shift gear to prepare for the changes. Overall, feedback is showing that the majority are looking forward to the stimulus this 'revamp' will give the service.
- Discussions with NZEI and PPTA have started and are going well.
- The updated RTLB Policy and Toolkit 2012 is taking shape and will include case studies and models of best practice. We are striving to make it more of a practical working guide for cluster managers, practice leaders and RTLB.

Cluster feedback ends this week

All feedback about the cluster groupings is being assessed. Any proposals for altered cluster arrangements must be with the national office by this coming Thursday. Based on this, and the latest school roll figures we have, the clusters will be remodelled and finalised ready for circulation in July.

UPDATE on RTLB Transformation

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Appointing lead schools

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we encourage you to propose to your School Boards the possibility of applying to become a lead school. Equally, there is of course no pressure to be a lead school.

The operational service document and the lead school selection process documents are online. The final documents will be available for circulation in July along with the cluster details.

Cluster managers appointments

The application process for Cluster managers will start immediately after the lead schools are appointed by the Minister in September. Draft information about this role and the job description can be found in the operational service document on the RTLB website.

The itinerating model

Over the years (as found by the ERO review) the RTLB itinerating model has not always been implemented and this has led to inconsistency and inequity throughout the country. The Ministry is engaging with some schools to assist with transitioning RTLB to the full itinerating way of operation. We are absolutely committed to ensure that all RTLB itinerate to equitably support all students across every school in New Zealand.

Regional hui

Working group members and members of the Ministry's project team are organising and presenting at regional hui. We encourage all principals and RTLB to attend. The calendar is also on Te Kete Ipurangi and will be updated as details are confirmed here: <http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/Transforming-RTLb-service/May-and-June-Hui>

Date	Time	Region or sector group	Venue
Monday 27 June	10:30am	Gisborne – Principals & RTLB	Awapuni School Hall (Awapuni Rd)
Tuesday 28 June	10:00am	Tai Tokerau - RTLB	The Centre 43 Cobham Road Kerikeri
Tuesday 28 June	1:30pm	Tai Tokerau - Principals	The Centre 43 Cobham Road Kerikeri
Thursday 30 June	10:00am.	Otagi/Kapiti Principals Association	Lindale Lodge

July

Friday 1 July	10:00am	Whanganui - RTLB	Ministry of Education, 93 Ingestre Street
Friday 1 July	1:30pm	Whanganui - Principals	Ministry of Education, 93 Ingestre Street
Monday 4 July	10:00am	Hamilton (2 nd meeting)	Melville Primary, 101 Ohaupo Road
Monday 4 July	1:30pm	Te Kuiti (2 nd meeting)	Te Aroha Primary, Jubilee Avenue

Please note that these details are accurate as at the time of emailing, however we will be updating the calendar on Te Kete Ipurangi, regularly.

Feedback at regional meetings

Regional meetings held to date have provided RTLB and principals around the country an opportunity to talk through the proposed design of the service and comment on the proposed cluster arrangement.

All meetings were well attended and feedback is showing that the majority are looking forward to the stimulus this 'revamp' will give the service.

Discussion and questions in the RTLB sessions largely focused on:

- the identity of the lead school and the process for choosing it
- who the employer would be and whether people would have to shift
- interest in eligibility for the Cluster Manager role and the salary attached.

Questions and comments in the Principals' meetings focused largely on:

- the benefits and perceived risks of being the lead school
- the potential loss of well functioning clusters in the transformation of clusters.

Industrial related questions raised are being worked through by the Ministry with the sector unions as the collective agreements do not have exact provisions for the types of changes envisaged.

The team would like to acknowledge the excellent support provided by principals and practitioners who have been in the working groups at the regional meetings. Working group members have been instrumental in helping the Ministry with developing the detail of the transformation.

Frequently asked questions

Q. Where can I find information about the application process and operation of a Lead School?

A.
<http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/content/download/749/3340/file/Process%20to%20Choose%20Lead%20School.pdf>

<http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/content/download/750/3343/file/How%20the%20service%20will%20operate.pdf>

Q. What happens to Māori RTLB positions throughout the country?

A. While RTLB Māori positions are not officially tagged through resourcing, nor are they in the official RTLB policy document, its characteristics will be important to retain and be recognised as a specialism within the service.

Cluster support for Māori students in both English and Māori medium schools will be essential delivery areas as well as compulsory reporting requirements for the new lead schools. We are also working on building cultural competency requirements across all RTLB practitioners under the new service model and updating practice guidelines and registration standards to reflect this.

Q. Can we operate a local specialist group and how do we ensure local matters are considered in a large cluster?

A. In the transformed service there will be a Local Advisory Committee. The role of the committee will be to maintain local input into service delivery.

It is expected that the cluster needs analysis will determine the expertise RTLB should have to meet the needs of the specific settings and student needs in the cluster. This could include expertise in supporting Māori students, Pasifika students and students in secondary schools.

Contact us by 30 June 2011

This will enable us to consider your collective feedback before we complete the design process.

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