

Resource Teacher: Learning & Behaviour Service

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From the editor

Term 4 is upon us. It will be a very busy time for lead schools, recruiting and appointing the additional RTLB ready for 2013. It will also be a time to plan for the expansion of the RTLB service so that it delivers to those 1500 students who are working long term within Level One of the curriculum.

This edition of the newsletter covers a wide range of issues. It never ceases to amaze me how complex the RTLB service is, and the wide range of issues you all deal with on a daily basis. It is your ability to keep juggling all these balls while providing a quality service to teachers and schools that is the real marvel!

Anne Tuffin, Project Manager, RTLB Transformation

October Cluster Manager Forum



All cluster managers are encouraged to attend the forum on Wednesday 24 October in Wellington or Friday 26 October in Auckland. Thank you to those cluster managers who have registered. There are still a few cluster managers yet to register and/or confirm their registration. Please complete your registration this week. Either

- register on the Conference Innovators website http://www.conference.co.nz/ministryofeducation/projects/rtlb_cluster_manager_forums
- contact Joy Mehlhopt at Joy@eventlink.co.nz.

The two areas of focus for the forum will be 'Data and Reporting' and 'SLS and RTLB Amalgamation'. Of course there will be an open forum to discuss current issues clusters are facing. Further information including an agenda will be sent out soon.

Collaboration for Success: IEPs

Updated information for the rollout of *Collaboration for Success: IEPs*

RTLB and their local SE colleagues should be continuing to work together to both develop and put in place their local plans for the rollout of "Collaboration for Success". There has been some discussion about the IEP template which has been developed as part of the rollout kit. Please refer also to the rollout kit information called **Using an IEP template** which states "the individual education plan format is not prescribed." Visit Special Education Online, <http://seonline.tki.org.nz/IEP>.

A secondary school national working group has been convened to consider the IEP process in secondary schools and to look at both key messages and examples of the use of IEPs in secondary schools.

Academic Year start and finish dates



RTLB clusters will work to the start and finish dates of their Lead School. All RTLB are bound by the collective agreement, and therefore are required to work to the dates set by that school. Any RTLB who have issues with the dates should raise them with their cluster manager or lead school principal in the first instance.

Special assessment conditions for NCEA

There have been some concerns expressed about the inconsistencies in the granting of Special Assessment Conditions for NCEA to students. The Ministry is in discussion with NZQA on this issue.

At this stage, Richard Thornton, the Deputy Chief Executive, Qualifications in NZQA has indicated that the organisation is keen to see a review of the policy and allocation of Special Assessment Conditions for NCEA including RTLB involvement. We will keep you updated as more information becomes available.

RTLB Accommodation



Many clusters have worked hard to accommodate RTLB on fewer sites and it has been great to see so much progress so far. While it is understood that there is a desire for all RTLB to be housed together, we need to make use of the existing space available in the Ministry's property network. Let's not lose sight of the goal here – we want RTLB to work together as communities of practice. This can be achieved by housing them together and/or by creating regular meeting opportunities. If housing solutions are difficult, we encourage regular meeting points.

New Intensive Wraparound Service (IWS)

Should any of the residential special schools close at the end of 2012, this will allow an extension of the Intensive Wraparound Service (IWS). David Pluck from the Ministry of Education will be contacting cluster managers in Term 4 to give an update on how RTLB will be involved with the IWS.

For more information about the IWS, visit <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/theMinistry/Consultation/ResidentialSpecialSchools/IntensiveWrapAroundService.aspx>.

SLS and RTLB Amalgamation

FAQ

At present the best place to find the answers to questions regarding the amalgamation is to visit the RTLB website: Amalgamating the SLS and RTLB services, Frequently asked questions, <http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/About-RTLb-service/Amalgamating-SLS-RTLb/FAQ-SLS-and-RTLb>.

Time will be set aside at the Cluster Manager forum to assist with planning the transition for SLS students and teachers in 2013.

Education Gazette article

Check out the featured article about the amalgamation, [http://www.edgazette.govt.nz/Articles/Article.aspx?ArticleId=8669&Title=Amalgamation for more streamlined service delivery](http://www.edgazette.govt.nz/Articles/Article.aspx?ArticleId=8669&Title=Amalgamation%20for%20more%20streamlined%20service%20delivery).

Entering into Lease Arrangements

The Funding and Service agreement with the Ministry will continue until the end of 2014. Therefore clusters should not enter into any lease arrangements that extend beyond that date e.g. car, property etc. Please note that the lead school is responsible for the lease for its duration, not the Ministry of Education.

Practice Leader Training

The Ministry of Education regional and district offices will be arranging practice leader training towards the end of Term 4, 2012. There will be more information coming from the regions in the near future.

Gateway Update

Gateway Assessments

Gateway assessments for children in care continue to be rolled out nationally. The Gateway process includes an education profile and health assessment for all children and young people when they enter care. This applies to around 2,400 children and young people annually.

Schools' completion of education profiles has increased. Between April and June 2012, 68% of the education profiles requested by social workers were returned by primary, intermediate and secondary schools, up from 41% previously.

The Ministry is pleased with this increased rate of return, while acknowledging further work needs to be done to boost the percentage of completed profiles. We will continue to emphasise to schools the importance of the education profile to the overall Gateway process.

The Ministry attribute much of the increase to the involvement of the Resource Teachers: Learning and Behaviour Service who are supporting teachers to complete and return the education profiles.

Clarification

Newsletter 10 included an error in the Gateway criteria. Please see below for clarification.

To receive support from RTLB the criteria is:

Cluster Manager allocates RTLB for follow up if –

- child or young person *enters* care*, and is
- aged between 5 and 14 years.

There are a couple of other pathways to receive a Gateway assessment that do not involve RTLB. The Social Worker will send an Education Profile form to the school or early childhood centre to be completed (with a copy to the Cluster Manager) if:

- child or young person *is in care* and is under 5 or over 14 years old; or
- child or young person is not in care, but has high needs identified by a Family Group Conference.

***Entry to care includes the following legal statuses:**

Section 78 – Custody pending a determination of proceedings

Section 101 – Custody orders

Section 102 – Interim custody orders (of a period of up to 6 months)

Section 110 – Guardianship orders

Section 139 – Agreements for temporary care

Section 140 – Agreements for extended care

Exemption from RTLB training

RTLB who hold historic exemptions from training, continue to be exempt from RTLB training **as long as they remain in their present job/cluster**. This is because the Transformation process honoured these exemptions.

Any new RTLB appointee is required to undergo training. This means that if an RTLB (who held a historic exemption) resigns from their cluster and wins a position in another cluster, they must then gain the RTLB qualification. The exemption is not valid for new RTLB appointment post Transformation.



For information about training for the Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Teaching (Learning and Behaviour), visit the following websites.

- RTLB website:
<http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/About-RTLB-service/How-to-become-an-RTLB>
 - Massey University website:
<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/learning/college/s/college-education/pg-dip-in-specialist-teaching.cfm>
 - Ministry of Education website:
<http://www.minedu.govt.nz/NZEducation/EducationPolicies/SpecialEducation/CareersAndProfessionalDevelopment/SpecialEducationScholarshipsAndStudyAwards/2013/Categories/RTLB.aspx>
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Audit of RTLB appointments

A few months ago we asked cluster managers to send in their audit for RTLB appointments for Terms 1 and 2, 2012. Many thanks to those of you who responded. Here is what was reported.

Of the 36 clusters who returned their data:

- 6 clusters made no RTLB appointments
- 29 clusters made a total of 132 RTLB FTE appointments.

Of the 132 FTE appointments:

Positions	
Permanent	86
Fixed term	32
Job-share	1
Unspecified	13
Teaching experience	
1 to 5 years	7
6 to 10 years	29
10+ years	93
Unspecified	3
RTLB experience	
Less than 1 year	57
1 to 2 years	11
3 to 4 years	6
5+ years	45
Unspecified	13
Highest qualification	
RTLB trained	31
Bachelors degree	74
Masters degree	21
Doctoral degree	2
Unspecified	4
Able to deliver in kura and Māori medium	
Appointees	18

The data indicates that a staffing refresh is occurring across the RTLB service nation-wide.

Privacy risks and Cloud computing

Some clusters have been concerned about using the cloud for storing data and whether this meets privacy requirements. The response from the Ministry legal team is as follows:

All the normal advice re Privacy applies, visit

- <http://www.educationalleaders.govt.nz/Problem-solving/Education-and-the-law/Rights-and-responsibilities/Managing-privacy-issues>.

There is information online re privacy and cloud computing, visit

- <http://ict.govt.nz/guidance-and-resources/agency-guides/government-use-offshore-ict-service-providers/privacy-risks>
- <http://privacy.org.nz/the-globe-and-the-cloud-where-is-the-privacy-commissioner-heading/?highlight=cloud>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDpwYqxvYQM&feature=plcp>.

The Ministry of Education funds NZSTA to provide professional advice, visit

- <http://www.nzsta.org.nz/nzsta-services/sta-helpdesk/>.

Exemplars of Year 11-13 funding

Exemplars are coming soon. The first ones have arrived and will be put up onto the Massey site in the following week. Keep checking the Massey VLN website, <http://specialistteaching.net.nz/login/index.php>.

Reference group nomination

Congratulations to Lianne Kalivati, Cluster Manager from Lower Hutt who has been nominated to participate in the Ministry of Health's Children's Spectacle Subsidy Reference Group. We look forward to hearing about the work of the Group from Lianne.