



## Update from Autism NZ - Leonie Fraser

Autism NZ has a team of skilled facilitators in the field of autism across Aotearoa, with a wealth of lived and professional knowledge in the delivery of strength and evidence-based programmes. They deliver face to face and online tailored autism training in the following areas:

**Tilting the Seesaw for Teams** this 2-day workshop works through strength-based, practical strategies to support the everyday inclusion of autistic children across the full primary school and home settings. This course is free to attend with additional teacher relief funding available by the MOE.

**Tilting the Seesaw for Learning Support Coordinators LSCs** Specifically for LSCs, this online course provides strategies and knowledge to transfer to teachers to make changes in the classroom. This course is free for LSCs and funded by MOE.

**Tilting the Seesaw for Teacher Aides** Specifically for Teacher Aides, this course provides strategies and knowledge to help foster student independence, and social skills. Cost is \$600.00 per person and is available to be approved for funding under the Teacher Aide PLD fund.

**Way to Play** - specifically designed for parents, professionals and people directly involved with a young autistic child. This course can be held in any setting, including bespoke training at ECE centres or schools.

**Other courses include:** 'Framework for Autism in NZ' (FANZ) and 'Way to Play' SELO programme. Other options include be-spoke autism training for schools and other organisations, including employers.

Contact [training@autismnz.org.nz](mailto:training@autismnz.org.nz) for further details or access and book courses: <https://book.autismnz.org.nz/>

## Gateway Review

In Term 3, Oranga Tamariki will be running a number of Gateway review activities in conjunction with the Ministries of Health and Education. Site reviews are planned in Auckland (3 regions), Te Tai Tokerau, and Otago Southland. A survey will also be available, and we will organise some RTLB specific focus groups for all clusters with dates to be advised.

## Master of Educational Psychology work experiences in RTLB clusters – Branka Vasilic

Thanks to RTLB clusters who supported work placements for students completing the Master of Educational and Developmental Psychology programme. We have received very positive feedback from both students and Cluster Managers. This reflects a broader, more collaborative view of psychology across key education settings.

## Recent publications from ERO and NZCER

Alternative Education - [Support for our most disengaged young people](#)

Teachers' Aides - [Supporting Teacher aides to have the most impact](#)

Attendance and Engagement - [Attendance getting back to school](#)

Literacy, communication and maths - [Common Practice model](#)

## The Ngā Tau Mīharo Incredible Years (IY) Aotearoa National Forum - Akari Miyamoto

On 15 June 2023, the IY national forum brought together approximately 280 IY practitioners as part of the Ministry's commitment to develop a sustainable workforce.

Hosted by the Ministry and Whāraurau, the national centre for Infant, Child, and Adolescent mental health (ICAMH) the event focus was on delivering IY programmes with fidelity. Key topics included how to tailor programmes to meet the needs of individual participants and adapting the programme to the NZ context.

Dr Carolyn-Webster-Stratton, the international developer, emphasised the importance of incorporating the experiences of participants into the programme and working with them to find appropriate strategies for children. She is planning to release new vignettes next year which include NZ whānau.

The forum was well received, and attendees reported they now feel more confident delivering high quality programmes in line with local needs. Please see the new video released: [video](#)

## In-Class Support (ICS) Regional Allocation 2024

There are 4500 ICS places nationally. Regions will be allocated the same number of positions in 2024 as in 2023 but can choose to adjust the application process to reduce the need to reapply for funding where needs are already known. This is an interim measure while waiting for the outcome of the Teacher Aide Accord work.

## Confirming who needs physical restraint training – Anna Aitchison

We have had some questions about who needs to complete what training under the new Physical Restraint rules and guidelines. We have updated the [Ministry's website](#) to clarify this. All registered kaiako need to complete the mandatory online module, [Physical Restraint - Understanding the Rules and Guidelines](#), by 7 February 2024.

In addition to this mandatory module, any school staff member who is in a team supporting an ākonga with restraint as part of their support plan should complete both the mandatory online module and physical holds and releases training. Please note there are very few school staff in this situation, and therefore very few staff will need physical holds and releases training.

This chart is now available on the website to make it easier for staff to understand what training they need:

What training do I need?				
What's your role?	Registered kaiako		Other school staff (such as a teacher aides)	
Are you in a team supporting an ākonga who has restraint in their support plan?	Yes	No	Yes	No
You need to complete this training:	Mandatory online module Physical holds and releases	Mandatory online module	Mandatory online module Physical holds and releases	None

Visit our [website](#) or [email the project team](#) for more information.

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