

Resource Teachers: Learning & Behaviour Service



Term 4, 2023, Newsletter 58

Tēnā koutou katoa, at the end of term 4 we are reflecting on 2023, from Ministry changes, new lead schools, floods, workload pressures, staffing issues, our new funding agreement, a great lead school forum, our thriving RTLB led networks and the positive impact of the Massey course students across the service.

At the Ministry national office the RTLB work has moved to a team led by Nadine Rohe taking over from Donna Caddie and Paris Hayne is taking over from Elvira Edmonds. Jill remains in her role in the new team Learning Support Practice.

Thanks to the Executive, Lead School Principals, Cluster Managers, Practice Leads and all RTLB for your commitment to service quality and improvements, which can be seen in the 2023 satisfaction survey results. Meri Kirihimete, Manuia le Kirisimasi, and Kilisimasi Fiefia from Nadine Rohe, Jill Ford, and Paris Hayne.

RTLB school and kura satisfaction survey results 2023 – Elvira Edmonds

The number of returns this year increased to 1,769 representing 54% of all schools (it was 48% in 2022). The overall satisfaction results increased again in 2023 with 87% for quality of service delivery (from 78% in 2022), and 81% for time to access services (from 72% in 2022).

The 2023 survey used some updated questions to reflect He Pikorua. The new questions cover things like collaborative problem-solving, flexible and tailored support, accountability, identity language and culture, system support, support for schools and educators, and ākonga and whānau. Clusters have their 2023 data now and the full analysis will be available early next year.

Updating the Incredible Years Practice Guidelines – Akari Miyamoto

We are delighted to advise the Incredible Years practice guidelines will be published in January 2024. Thank you for your feedback provided within sector consultation. RTLB feedback consisted of 20 participants across 11 clusters, representing a cross section of urban, rural, north and south and delivery in Te Reo. A very special thank you to Helen Aldwell (Cluster 35) and Sandy Taipeti (Cluster 14) for leading feedback sessions.

Incredible Years Teacher (IYT) Group Leader Programme through the Massey Specialist Teaching - Akari Miyamoto

In 2022, Massey and Whāraurau made the Incredible Years Teacher Group Leader Programme available as part of the Specialist Teaching Qualification for the first time. This course will be available again in 2024, running from 15-17 May. At the start of 2024, Akari will send Cluster managers the link to Whāraurau enrolment. If you would like your RTLB who is in year 2 of study in 2024 to attend, please discuss it and once agreed, send them the link to enrol. The criteria are that the Cluster Manager supports this and the RTLB will deliver the IYT programme within 12 months of completing the course. If you have any questions, please contact: akari.miyamoto@education.govt.nz

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L): Huakina Mai – Louanna Garmonsway



Huakina Mai is a culturally responsive initiative that sits within the Kaupapa Māori suite of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L). *Huakina Mai* promotes the notion of whānau, schools and iwi (mana whenua) working together to build and embed a positive and culturally responsive school culture. The programme is premised on a set of core kaupapa Māori world view perspectives.

Two regions are currently testing *Huakina Mai*: A 'self-managed' model. It is being implemented in five Southland schools who have existing relationships with their local Iwi or hapū, who are able to support implementation. An Iwi-led model is also being implemented in one area school in Hauraki, Waikato, alongside two Iwi: Ngaati Whaanaunga and Ngāti Porou ki Harataunga

New Lead Schools in 2025 – Jill Ford

From 28 January 2024 we will be pleased to welcome two new lead schools, Nelson Central School for cluster 30 and Morningside School for cluster 2. Thanks to Motueka South and Whangarei Girls' High for their many years service to their RTLB service and cluster schools.

Massey University Specialist Teaching Programme – Wendy Holley-Boen and Rosina Prasad

Thank you everyone for another year of partnership, joined up studier support and collective impact on the sector. Final portfolios were outstanding, demonstrating significant learning, growth, interprofessional collaboration and ripples of influence in their contexts.

We are currently seeking studiers' informed consent, giving them agency to build mahi whakahirahira (practice that shines) back into Specialist Teaching, the Learning Support Network and Kairaranga. This is so important for bridging theory and practice for future studiers nationally around He Pikorua, Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and so on.

Enrolments have also gone very smoothly and a reminder for studiers to apply for next year's courses by 9 December.

February Contact Workshop (Massey University, Albany Campus)	
Year 1	
Tuesday 13 February	Professional Learning Pathways
Wednesday 14 February	Theory and Practice: Learning & Behaviour
Year 2	
Thursday 15 February	Practicum
Friday 16 February	Community-Based Practice
Masters	
Tuesday 26 February	Professional Inquiry (via Zoom)

July Contact Workshop (Massey University, Albany Campus)	
Year 1	
Tuesday 16 July	Professional Learning Pathways
Wednesday 17 July	Theory and Practice: Learning & Behaviour
Year 2	
Thursday 18 July	Practicum
Friday 19 July	Community-Based Practice
Masters	
Tuesday 23 July	Mentoring (via Zoom) Additional Areas (via Zoom)

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) School-Wide Refresh – Leah Vennell

Budget 22 provided funding for 14 additional School-Wide Practitioners. This recruitment is underway with a focus on recruiting kaimahi who can also help with the implementation of other PB4L programmes including Huakina Mai.

Funding was also provided to refresh the School-Wide framework and manual to:

- bring the framework and supporting material up to date with recent research and practice
- meet the needs of all kura and schools, and all ākonga & their whānau
- improve measurement tools that can be used for focus and continuous improvement
- provide more consistency of process across NZ.

The refresh team are looking to refine the training, communication and implementation plans for 2024 so that this aligns with other programmes being released to the sector by the Ministry.

Special Assessment Conditions - Amanda Metcalf

A trial Notifications Gateway is now available for schools and kura making new SAC applications for students working on Level 1 standards in 2024. The Gateway will be optional for schools and kura to use.

If the trial Notifications Gateway is used, NZQA approval is not needed, and supporting evidence will not need to be submitted. Schools and kura will still need to gather evidence of students' needs.

The current Approvals Gateway can still be used for any applications at the school's or kura discretion. All applications for students in Years 12 and 13 must use the current Approvals Gateway in 2024.

Key resources to support school and kura

- [Equity of access to support including special assessment conditions | Inclusive Education](#)
- [Prepare for externally assessed standards | Inclusive Education](#)
- [Being an effective assessment assistant | teacheraidmodules.org.nz](#)
- [Guidance for ākonga and whānau \(NCEA.Education\)](#)
- [About the new Notifications Gateway | NZQA.govt.nz](#)
- [SAC online tool guide | NZQA.govt.nz](#)

**NZ RTLB Professional Learning Network –
Fiona Harkness and Sue McIntosh**

The NZRTLB Professional Learning Network has had a very productive year. Some highlights include the Facebook page which now has 500 practicing RTLB members [NZ RTLB PLN Facebook](#) and the NZRTLB website launch in October <https://www.nzrtlb.net.nz/>.

Cluster Managers now have a shared space to share information, ask questions and provide support and the National Practice Leaders online hui are now underway.

Webinars have been well supported including, Jon Mundorf and Cathy Pole’s Q & A on UDL, implementing the Inclusive Design modules (Cluster 31) and the Collaborative Proactive Solutions session (CPS model) by Kelly McGowan.

The team looking at Trauma Informed Practice have renamed it Te Whare Whakaruruhau meaning the place of support and protection. They are currently doing some exciting work with Dr Heidi Leeson. A series of podcasts called "RTLB Realities" is nearly ready to be released. Contact nzrtlb.pln@gmail.com

Assistive Technology - Justine Simpson

Assistive technology is a key tool to support student learning. When RTLB work with school teams to investigate assistive technology options for students, one of the activities involved in this exploration is comparing the features of the tools the team already has to those that the student needs in order to succeed in their learning task.

This “black box” technique is a student centred, task-focused and environmental beneficial decision-making process, used to identify the assistive technology tools and strategies, and sharing potential solutions and options. This “black box” technique guides the team to list the features that they see the "black box" needs to support the student’s learning. Then comparing available technologies (classroom, school or other) that have the specific features you have identified. Questions to guide:

- What do you want this “black box” to do?
- What features must this “black box” have to meet the identified learning needs of our student?
- Which technology solutions best fit the features you and your team have listed? Including the schools operating platform and network

For further information refer to the [SETT Framework](#) or access the courses available through our AT newsletter

The 2024 assistive technology moderation dates are:

7 th February (<i>day after Waitangi Day</i>)	2 nd July*
5 th March	6 th August*
2 nd April (<i>day after Easter break</i>)	3 rd September*
7 th May	1 st October (<i>in school holidays</i>)*
4 th June (<i>day after King’s birthday</i>)	5 th November*

PLD Centre for Assistive Technology webinar recordings from 2023:

Webinar name & recorded date	Link
What is assistive technology? (23 Feb)	https://bit.ly/whatisAT23
Making an assistive technology application (4 April)	https://bit.ly/applyforAT23
Selecting the right equipment to trial (11 May)	https://bit.ly/selectAT23
How to run an effective trial of assistive technology (8 June)	https://bit.ly/trialAT23
Integrating and managing funded assistive technologies (3 Aug)	https://bit.ly/usingAT23
How to RE-SETT and consider a change of assistive technology (5 Sep)	https://bit.ly/reSETT23
End-of-year Checklist for Assistive Technology (12 Oct)	https://bit.ly/ATchecklist23