

# Target social skills teaching to needs

Sometimes students may need targeted teaching of social skills.

For example, autistic students often need specific teaching to learn how to initiate interactions, share, and take turns.

Steps to consider:

- Define social skills goals and values with the student and their team.
- Describe the goal in measurable terms.
- Use a range of teaching techniques, for example, structured discussions, social stories.
- Facilitate the generalisation of social skills to peers through role-playing and video modelling.
- Transition from structured teaching to everyday situations – the student may need supports to achieve this.
- Check for social validity – can the student use the new skills in different situations?

For resources and activity cards see the Health and Physical Education curriculum:

[Social and Emotional Learning – Resource collections](#)

For younger students see Te Whariki Online:

[He Māpuna te Tamaiti – Supporting social and emotional competence in early learning](#)

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