

Provide ongoing discussion opportunities for parents and whānau

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Work with parents and whānau' from the Guide: [ILEs](#)

Includes:

- Identify community needs
 - Communication approaches
 - Parent workshops
 - Virtual tour
 - Communicate regularly
 - Useful resources
-

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Planning innovative learning environments \(ILEs\)](#)

Strategy: [Work with parents and whānau](#)

Suggestion: [Provide ongoing discussion opportunities for parents and whānau](#)

Date

21 January 2019

Link

www.inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/planning-innovative-learning-environments-iles/provide-ongoing-discussion-opportunities-for-parents-and-whanau

Identify community needs

Halswell School involved the community from the outset in developing their ILE. Parent input was sought and fed into the architect's design brief.

Source: [Enabling e-Learning \(NZ\)](#) Closed Captions

Source:

[Enabling e-Learning \(NZ\)
http://elearning.tki.org.nz/Leadership/Leading-e-Learning/Planning-the-new-build-a-school-and-community-partnership](http://elearning.tki.org.nz/Leadership/Leading-e-Learning/Planning-the-new-build-a-school-and-community-partnership)



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/142813492>

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Communication approaches

Use a range of communication options.

- ▲▲ Welcome parents, whānau, and teachers to regular shared breakfasts in the staffroom to discuss ideas, concerns and updates.
- ▲▲ Have an open-door policy, where parents and whānau are welcome to visit classes at any time and sit in on the learning.
- ▲▲ Plan and advertise specific open-classroom days when parents and whānau are welcome to chat to students about their thoughts and experiences of working in an ILE.
- ▲▲ Include regular updates and information explaining the changes in your newsletters.
- ▲▲ Develop a FAQ webpage, where all the questions people have asked are collated and responses to each one are added.
- ▲▲ Plan multiple parent evening meetings.

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Parent workshops

When we started our ILE journey, we had lots of questions from parents about what it was, what it would mean, and how it would work. We held a number of parent workshops and meetings to talk it all through. We also made some videos for those who weren't able to come to the meetings.

Source: [Pegasus Bay School](#)

Source:

[Pegasus Bay School](#)

<http://www.pegasusbay.school.nz/>

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Virtual tour

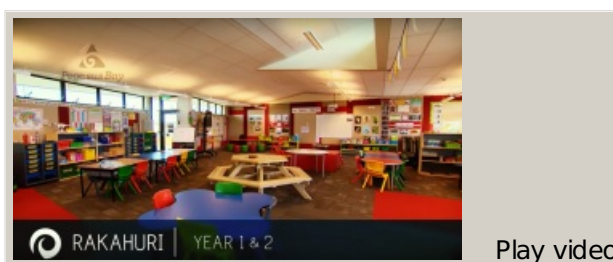
A virtual tour of your learning spaces provides a visual for parents and students to familiarise themselves with the layout and purposes of the new spaces.

Source: [Pegasus Bay School \(NZ\)](#) Closed Captions

Source:

[Pegasus Bay School \(NZ\)](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSZyoQyZxAg>



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/KSZyoQyZxAg>

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Communicate regularly

Parent, Kirsten explains, “Leah felt that Linda was including us. It wasn’t just she went to school and was in a classroom for 5 hours. She knew that Linda was talking to us.”

Source: [Ministry of Education, inclusive education videos \(NZ\)](#)

Closed
Captions

Source:

[Ministry of Education, inclusive education videos \(NZ\)](#)
<https://vimeo.com/album/2950799>



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/186356935>

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Useful resources

Videos, useful websites, and research on connecting with parents, whānau, and the community.

Grow Waitaha: Perspectives and partnerships

Publisher: Grow Waitaha

[Visit website](#)

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