

# Partner with whānau, parents and caregivers

A suggestion for implementing the strategy  
'Identify needs and how to provide support'  
from the Guide: [Speech, language &  
communication needs](#)

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**Includes:**

- Transitions at Onslow College
- What to ask
- Support information sharing
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Speech, language and communication needs](#)

Strategy: [Identify needs and how to provide support](#)

Suggestion: [Partner with whānau, parents and caregivers](#)

Date

21 April 2024

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/speech-language-and-communication-needs/partner-with-whanau-parents-and-caregivers](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/speech-language-and-communication-needs/partner-with-whanau-parents-and-caregivers)

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## Transitions at Onslow College

Work closely with parents and whānau.

Find out what approaches and strategies have worked well for their children in their previous school.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/100662366>

Closed Captions

Source:

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

<http://vimeo.com/album/2950799>

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# What to ask

Connect with parents, whānau, and caregivers to understand the strengths and needs of students.

### Practical elements:

- the language(s) spoken at home
- medications and allergies
- equipment used at home
- what they do at home to support learning

### Students' likes and dislikes:

- likes, interests, strengths, what they're good at, can do independently
- dislikes, what can upset them, how they express this, calming skills
- favourites (TV programmes, hobbies, books, songs, sports)

### The people in the students' lives:

- parent and whānau hopes and priorities
- important people in the student's life
- best methods and times to communicate with the family
- professionals working with the family
- questions they have and support they would like from the school.

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## Support information sharing

### Build regular times for communication

- ✓ Encourage parents and caregivers to share what they have noticed or assessments they have had done outside school.
- ✓ Build on any programmes or materials used at home, to maximise consistency and support for the student.
- ✓ Develop systems for passing on information about a student's needs, progress and next steps.
- ✓ Share information about out-of-school programmes that may help boost the student's self-esteem, for example, classes or groups for music, art, dance or sports.

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## Useful resources



### Family/whānau file

A booklet to help parents of students with additional needs to brief their child's school.

[Visit website](#)

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