**Inclusive Education** 



# Current models of practice

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Review and refine the TA's role and responsibilities' from the Guide: Teacher aide practice

## Includes: Observe and meet with TAs and teachers Take a creative approach to information gathering Identify how roles and responsi­bilities are delegated Reflective questions for teacher aides Useful resources

Inclusive Education From Guide: Supporting effective teacher aide practice Strategy: Review and refine the TA's role and responsibilities Suggestion: Current models of practice Date 27 April 2024

Link inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-effective-teacher-aide-practice/seek-to-understand-currentmodels-of-practice

## **Observe and meet with TAs and teachers**



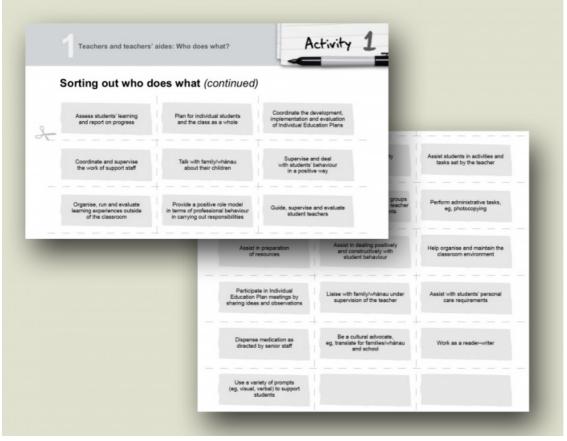
Source: Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga View full image (3 MB)

## Take a creative approach to information gathering

Utilise multiple media.

- ✓ Surveying staff (anonymously) for their views and experiences.
- ✓ Inviting teacher aides to keep a diary to record information about the tasks they undertake in their working time.
- ✓ Observing and asking questions about teachers' decisionmaking about teacher aides' deployment.
- ✓ Using photos or video to document teacher aides' interactions with students.
- Conducting a skills audit to collect details of teacher aides' qualifications, training, experience, specialist skills, and talents.

## Identify how roles and responsibilities are delegated



#### Source:

Teachers & Teachers' Aides Working Together https://seonline.tki.org.nz/Teachers-and-teacher-aides/Our-roles/Module-1

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## **Reflective questions for teacher aides**

Use these questions to identify areas of strength and support needs.

- ✔ What do you see as your role in the school?
- ✔ What do you see as your role in the classroom?
- ✓ Do you have other school responsibilities?
- ✓ How are you supported in your role?
- ✓ Who provides support?
- ✓ Do you get planning time with the teachers?
- ✓ How are you involved in planning your programme?
- ✓ Are you given a programme to use?
- ✔ What have you done with students that you are proud of?
- ✔ What is most satisfying in your work?
- ✓ What is most difficult in your role?
- ✓ Have you any frustrations or issues?
- ✓ What else would you like to mention?

## **Useful resources**

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#### Lesson observation schedule

This is an example observation table to support in-class observations of the teacher's and teacher aide's roles within a set learning context.

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#### Sorting activity

This activity supports teachers and teacher aides to clarify roles in the classroom. It is from Maximising the impact of teaching assistants (2nd edition), a UK resource.

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## Teachers and teachers' aides working together: Our roles

These three New Zealand modules provide clarity on the teacher and teacher aide roles, and promote effective working partnerships.

Publisher:

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