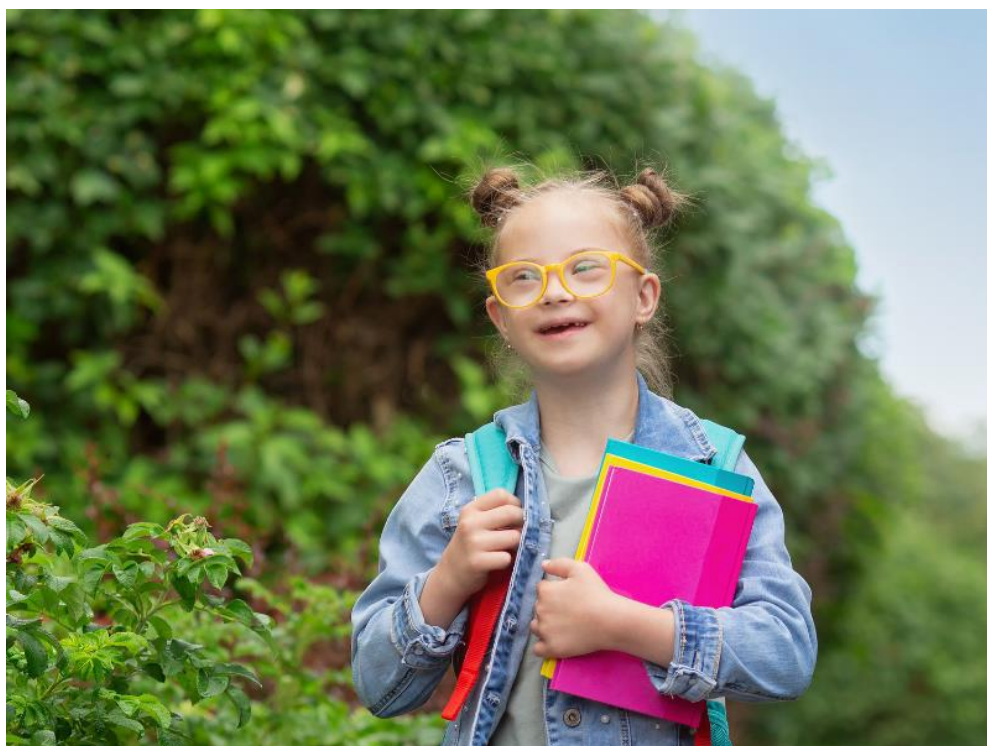




**Te Tāhuhu o
te Mātauranga**
Ministry of Education



Settlement between IHC, the Minister and the Ministry of Education



Published: December 2025

What this Easy Read is about



This Easy Read is from the **Ministry of Education**.



The **Ministry of Education** is the part of Government in charge of the **education system**.



The **education system** is all the places people learn like:

- preschools / kindergartens
- schools
- tertiary education like polytechs.



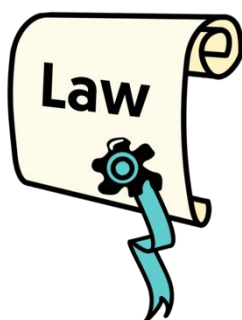


When you see **we / us / our** in this Easy Read it means the Ministry of Education.



This Easy Read is about a **settlement** between:

- the Ministry of Education
- the **Minister of Education**
- **IHC.**



A **settlement** is a **legal** agreement made in court that:

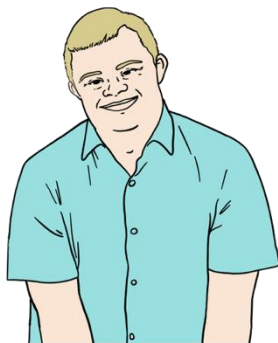
- ends a conflict / disagreement
- says what each side must do to put things right.

Legal means something to do with the law.



The **Minister of Education** is:

- part of the Government
- in charge of the Ministry of Education.



IHC is an organisation that works for people with learning / intellectual disabilities.

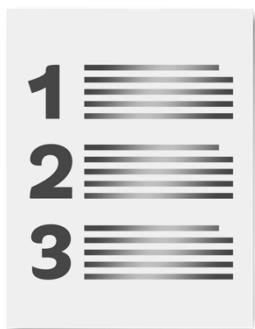


The settlement will make the Aotearoa New Zealand education system work better for disabled students.



This Easy Read has information about:

- the **Framework for Action**
- being part of a **stakeholder group**.



The **Framework for Action** says the things we will do to make the education system better for disabled students.

In this Easy Read the Framework for Action will be called **the framework**.

Here the **stakeholder group** is a group of people who:

- have experience with:
 - disability
 - education
- give us advice about our work on the framework.

Framework for Action



This settlement is to sort out a **complaint** IHC made under the **Human Rights Act**.



Making a **complaint** means telling someone:

- there is a problem
- you want them to do something to put it right.





The **Human Rights Act** is a law about the things every person should:

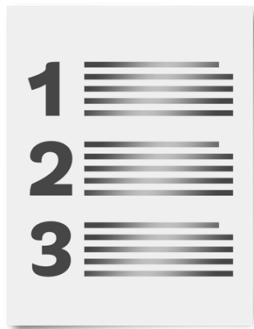
- have
- be able to do.

Human rights are things like:

- having a safe place to live
- getting the education you need.

IHC said that some things in the education system:

- are **discrimination**
- cause disabled students to get less education than non-disabled students.



Discrimination is when people are treated unfairly because of things about them like:

- how old they are
- if they are disabled.

IHC has written the framework to get rid of some of the **barriers** for disabled students in the education system.

Barriers are things that make it harder to do the things you need / want to do.

We have promised to do the things in the framework.



The framework says we have to **investigate** things about the education system like how we:

- collect information about disabled students
- report / share information about disabled students.



Here **investigate** means looking closely at things to see:

- what is happening
- how they could be made better.

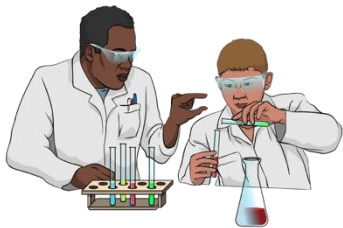


The framework also says we have to investigate how easy it is for students to get the **specialist support services** they need.



Here **specialist support services** are people who have training to support disabled students with their learning like:

- speech–language therapists
- vision or hearing experts.

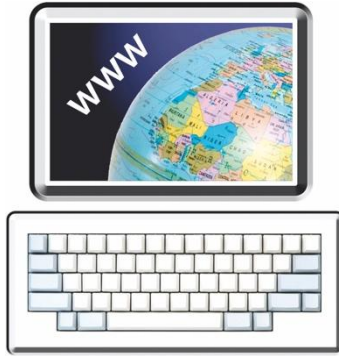


We also have to investigate:

- if the things we teach:
 - work for all students
 - let all students be included
- how **accessible** our schools are.



Accessible means something works well for disabled people.



You can find Easy Read information
about the framework at:

<https://tinyurl.com/ef8v35ks>

Being part of the stakeholder group



The stakeholder group will:

- share ideas about our work on the framework
- give us **feedback**.



Feedback is when you tell someone what they:

- are doing well
- could do better.



We will work with the stakeholder group to make sure we are listening to the lived experiences of disabled people.



The stakeholder group will have
6 to 8 members.



2 members will be from IHC.

1 of the members from IHC will be
the **chair** of the group.



The **chair**:

- leads meetings
- speaks for the group.



We are looking for people to be part of the stakeholder group:

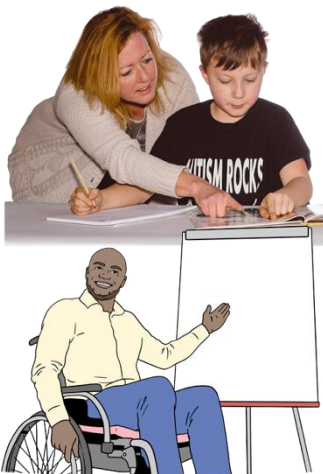


- who have been through the education system in Aotearoa New Zealand

and



- who are:
 - disabled
 - tangata whaikaha Māori.



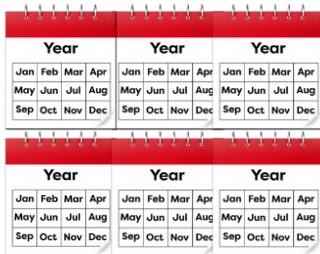
We are also looking for people who have:

- supported a disabled person through their education
- worked in the education system.



Members of the stakeholder group should understand what:

- is important to disabled students
- barriers there are for disabled students.



The stakeholder group will run for at least 6 years.



Members will be part of the group for at least 3 years.



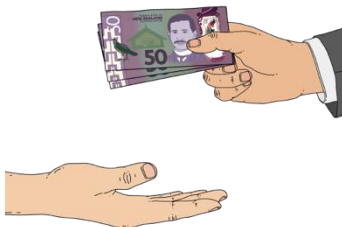
The group will meet 3 times each year.



Meetings will probably be in:

- February
- June
- October.

We will pay members who do not already work for us for their:



- time
- travel costs.

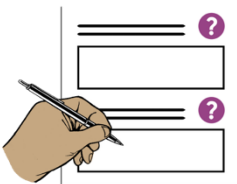


You can apply to be a member of the stakeholder group by filling out an **expression of interest** form before **11 January 2026**.



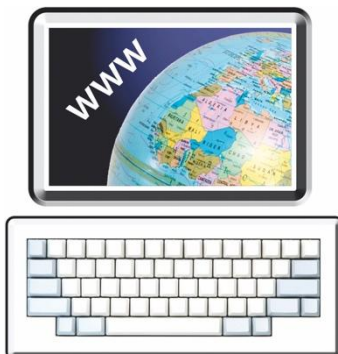
Here an **expression of interest** is a formal way to say:

- you would like to be part of the stakeholder group
- why you would be a good person to have in the stakeholder group.



You can find the Easy Read expression of interest form at:

<https://tinyurl.com/3v3famn3>



You can also fill out an expression of interest form **online** at:

<https://tinyurl.com/2t7cuz7u>



The online form is **not** in Easy Read.

Contact us



You can contact us if you have questions about the:

- framework
- stakeholder group.



You can **email** us at:

enquiries.national@education.govt.nz



When you email please write
IHC Settlement Agreement in the
subject line.



You can **phone** us on:

0800 4711 711

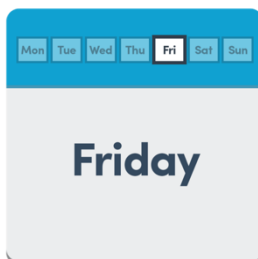
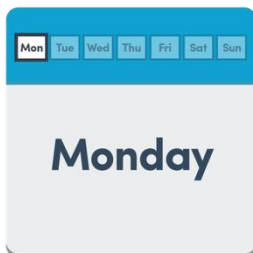


You can only phone us if you are in
Aotearoa New Zealand.



You can phone us:

- from
 - 9 am
 - to
 - 5 pm
- on
 - Monday
 - to
 - Friday.





It does **not** cost money to phone us.



If you find it hard to use the phone
the **New Zealand Relay** service is for
people who are:



- Deaf / hard of hearing
- deafblind
- speech impaired / find it hard to talk.



You can find out more about the New
Zealand Relay service at:

www.nzrelay.co.nz



This information has been written by Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education.



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



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