



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



Information for parents and whānau / family about Early Intervention Services



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What you will find in here

Page number:



What this Easy Read is about.....2



What the Early Intervention
Service does5



How to get support from the Early
Intervention Service7



Questions and answers10



More information17

What this Easy Read is about

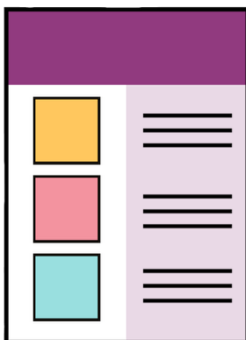


This Easy Read is from
Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga
Ministry of Education.



Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga
Ministry of Education is the part of
the Government in charge of:

- schools
- preschools
- tertiary education like polytechnics.



In this Easy Read Te Tāhuhu o te
Mātauranga Ministry of Education
will be called the **Ministry of**
Education.



This Easy Read is about the **Early Intervention Service**.



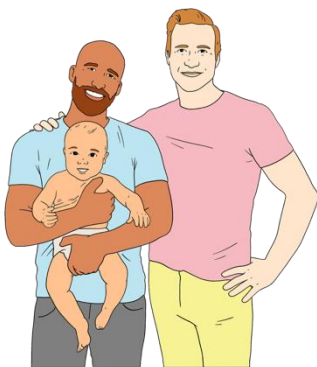
The **Early Intervention Service** gives support for children who:

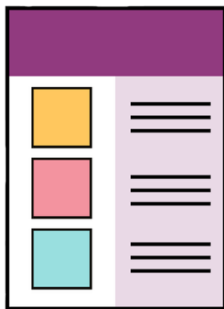
- are disabled
- have a hard time with:
 - learning
 - behaviour
 - **communication.**



It gives support for:

- children from birth to Year 1 at school
- their whānau / families.





Here **communication** is things like:

- talking
- using sign language
- understanding other people.

In this Easy Read the Early Intervention Service will be called the **EIS**.

The EIS used to stop when children started school.

From 2026 the EIS will support children until the end of Year 1 at school.

What the Early Intervention Service does



Early intervention teams work with:

- whānau / families
- early learning centres like:
 - preschools
 - kindergartens
 - kōhanga reo
 - Playcentres
- kura / schools.





The EIS supports children:

- at home
- in their community
- at their early learning centre / school.



Having support from the EIS for longer means children can get the best possible start at school.

How to get support from the Early Intervention Service



All children:

- are different
- do things in their own time.



Sometimes parents will have worries
about how their child is learning.



If you are worried you can talk to
someone who:

- knows your child

and

- knows a lot about how children
learn.



Some people you can talk to about how your child is learning are:



- their doctor



- their Well Child provider like:

- Whānau Āwhina Plunket

- Well Child Tamariki Ora



- a teacher at their early learning centre

- people at their school like:

- their teacher

- the **Special Educational Needs Coordinator**

- the **Learning Support Coordinator.**





A Special Educational Needs Coordinator is a teacher who works in their school to organise **learning support**.



Learning support is support for students who:

- find it hard to learn at school
- need to learn in different ways from most other students.



A Learning Support Coordinator works in a school to:

- find out which students need learning support
- find the right learning support for students
- support teachers to learn more about learning support.



Questions and answers

Who can get support from the EIS?



From 2026 children can get support from the EIS:

- from when they are born
- to
- the end of Year 1 at school.



Can parents ask for support from the EIS?



Parents can ask for support from the EIS.



If you are worried about how your child is learning you can talk to:

- their teacher at their:
 - early learning centre
 - school
- the Learning Support Coordinator at their school
- their Well Child provider.



These people can support you to find out what:

- needs your child has
- support your child can get.



Does my child need a diagnosis to get support from the EIS?



Children do not need a **diagnosis** to get support from the EIS.



Here a **diagnosis** is when a **specialist** finds out that a child has something that makes learning harder for them like a disability.



A **specialist** is someone who knows a lot about 1 thing.

Can my child be referred to the EIS after they have started school?

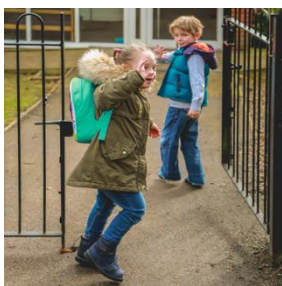


Here **refer** means someone organises for your child to be seen by the EIS.



Sometimes children do not show that they have learning needs until after they start school.

Children can still be referred to the EIS when they are in:



- Year 0
- Year 1.

What learning support can my child get after they finish Year 1?



If your child needs learning support after Year 1 it is best to talk to their teacher first.



After Year 1 children can get learning support from:

- people in their school like the:
 - Learning Support Coordinator
 - Special Educational Needs Coordinator
- a **Resource Teacher: Learning and Behaviour**
- other support services.



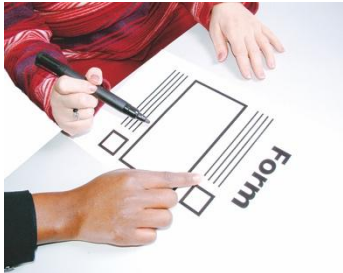


A Resource Teacher: Learning and Behaviour is a specialist who visits schools.

They know a lot about how to support children who are finding school hard.

A Resource Teacher: Learning and Behaviour is called an **RTL** for short.

Who gives consent for a child to get support from the EIS?



Parents have to sign a **consent form** before their child can get support from the EIS.



A **consent form** says you:

- agree to something
- understand:
 - what will happen
 - what your choices are.



You can **withdraw** consent at any time.



Here **withdraw** means you say you:

- no longer consent to your child getting support from the EIS
- want support from the EIS to stop.

More information



If you need more information about Early Intervention Services you can get in touch with your local Ministry of Education team.



You can find contact information for your local Ministry of Education office at:

www.education.govt.nz/offices



To find out more about Learning Support Coordinators in schools go to:

www.education.govt.nz/lsc



To find information about learning support when your child starts school go to:

www.education.govt.nz/support-start-school



For information about what to do if you are worried about how your child is learning go to:

www.education.govt.nz/worried-about-learning



You can find Easy Read information about new Government funding for learning support at:

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



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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