



Don Buck School

Next review: Term 4 2026

Learning Support

At Don Buck School, the board ensures that every student is able to attain their highest possible standard in educational achievement and that the school is inclusive of, and caters for, students with differing needs (Education and Training Act 2020 s 127.1.a, c). We have high aspirations for every student, reduce barriers to education, and support all students to develop sound skills in literacy and numeracy (NELP Objectives 1 and 2). We provide learning support for students who may have a range of individual **learning support needs**. We take a collaborative approach and involve the student, their parents/caregivers, and others as needed, to best support the student. Also see **Inclusive School Culture** and **Board Responsibilities**.

When providing learning support, we are guided by our health and safety policies. This includes ensuring that student healthcare and behavioural needs are met, students are appropriately supervised, and staff are aware of our child protection framework. See **Healthcare, Behaviour Management, Student Wellbeing and Safety**, and **Minimising Physical Restraint**.

Learning support responsibilities

At our school, SENCO is responsible for coordinating and monitoring **support** for students with **learning support** needs, including gifted students.

Learning support coordination may include:

- monitoring learning support implementation and resources (including referrals and record-keeping)
- working with students and parents/caregivers to support learning needs
- liaising with the Ministry of Education, and other professionals and services (e.g. Resource Teachers: Learning and Behaviour (RTLb), occupational therapists, speech language therapists, etc.)
- monitoring schoolwide learning support needs, trends, and outcomes
- supporting all staff to effectively deliver our learning support outcomes, including overseeing staff development in learning support
- ensuring the appraisal of **learning support** staff is completed by the end of the year.

Our teachers are responsible for planning and delivering programmes and strategies that are responsive to the individual needs of students they teach or support. Learning support staff may also be responsible for supporting students in class, or providing support outside of class.

Recording and sharing learning support information

At Don Buck School, we record and maintain information about **learning support** for each student (e.g. professional reports, observations, **support** plans, meeting notes) in our student management system.

The principal reports to the board on **learning support** needs, trends, and outcomes. **Learning support** updates are provided in board and staff meetings, as appropriate, to ensure we are consistent and reflective in our practices.

We comply with all privacy and records retention requirements. See [Privacy Policy](#), [Sharing Information](#), and [School Records Retention and Disposal](#).

Staff support and professional development

We provide appropriate induction and ongoing support in the area of learning support for school staff. This is part of our commitment to developing strong teaching, leadership, and learner support capability (NELP Objective 3, Priority 6).

We may offer professional development for teaching staff and school leaders to support the engagement, learning, and achievement of all students. See [Professional Development](#).

We monitor the health, safety, and wellbeing of staff and encourage them to discuss any concerns. See [Staff Wellbeing and Safety](#).

This policy aligns with **NELP** Objective 1: Learners at the Centre, Objective 2: Barrier Free Access, and Objective 3: Quality Teaching and Leadership.

The principal assures the board that teachers of students with learning support needs have a sound understanding of student needs, and systems are in place to support these students. See [Review Schedule and Board Assurances](#).





Related policies

- [Inclusive School Culture](#)
- [Māori Educational Achievement](#)
- [Child Protection](#)
- [Student Wellbeing and Safety](#)
- [Healthcare](#)
- [Behaviour Management](#)
- [Staff Wellbeing and Safety](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Sharing Student Personal Information with External Agencies](#)
- [Sharing Student Personal Information with Parents and Guardians](#)
- [School Records Retention and Disposal](#)

Legislation

- Education and Training Act 2020
- Human Rights Act 1993
- Privacy Act 2020
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCROC)

Resources

- Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga: [Learning support](#) 
- Inclusive Education:
 - [Guides](#) 
 - [Understanding the Learning Support Delivery Model \(LSDM\) and new models for collaboration](#) 
- Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa | New Zealand Government: [Learning support \(special education\)](#) 

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IN THIS SECTION

Identifying Learning Support Needs

Providing Learning Support

Last review	Term 3 2023
Topic type	Core