

RTLB Newsletter Term 3, 2022

Kia ora tātou,

Personnel

We were very sorry to farewell Michelle Thwaites at the end of last term. Michelle has now taken up the position of principal of Russell School. We know the kaiako and mokopuna at Russell School will benefit from Michelle's extensive knowledge and experience; as we did for the year Michelle worked as an RTLB in our team.

In term two the extent of our service delivery was detrimentally impacted by a high level of RTLB absence due to illness and isolation requirements. Similarly, high kaiako and mokopuna absence in schools has meant negotiated plans have not been able progress as quickly as we would like. We fully expect this scenario to continue this term, so would appreciate your patience as we manage existing constraints.

We are pleased the cluster continues to be fully staffed this term.

New Lead School

Expressions of Interest from schools interested in employing Cluster 28 RTLB have now closed. The Ministry has considered the EOIs submitted and we should hear very soon who our new lead school will be. The Ministry will follow its robust process to ensure a smooth transition of employment from Mairehau Primary School (in Christchurch) to the new school.

RTLB Relieving

The RTLB team is supporting the Regional Ministry's initiative to respond to those kura facing immediate closure due to an extreme staffing emergency. To this end, a number of our staff have volunteered one day a week where they are willing to relieve in schools where there is a need. Depending on the level of demand, it may affect the team's capacity to respond to new requests for support. Please keep this in mind when considering making additional requests.

Big Wednesday

Big Wednesday dates for Term 3 are: 3 August; 24 August and 14 September.

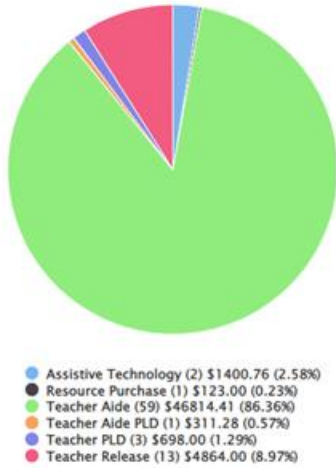
Requests for support must be submitted by 5pm on Big Wednesday so they can be discussed and allocated to RTLB (if there is capacity) at team meetings the following week.

Applications for RTLB Funding also need to be made by RTLB by Big Wednesday in preparation for the Funding Committee meeting the following week.

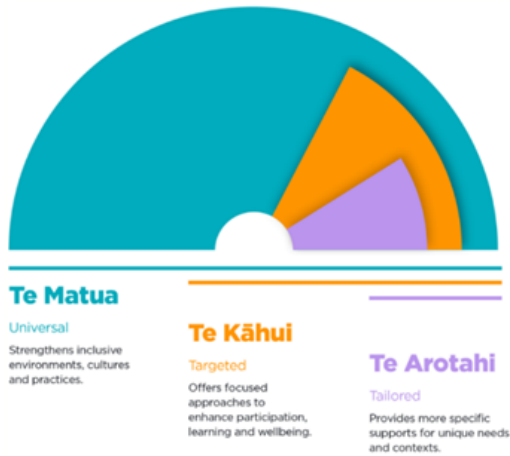
RTLB Learning Support Funding

Just over \$54,000 of RTLB Learning Support Funding has been allocated to support RTLB cases in Terms 1 and 2, 2022. The graph below shows the purpose of the allocations. This leaves over \$100k available in Terms 3 and 4 and to support the transition of students between schools at the end of the 2022 school year if this is needed to set the students up for a successful start at their new school.

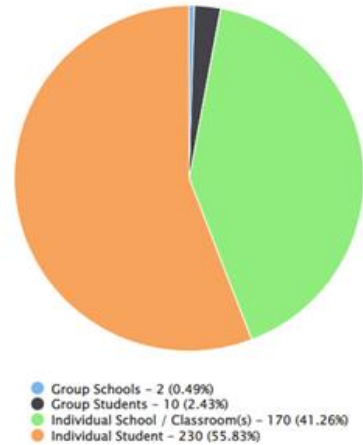
Approved Funding Requests by Funding Category



Te Tūāpapa Framework



Allocated Requests by Type



The continuum of support provided by RTLB continues to range across the three (previously named) tiers (universal, targeted and tailored) as shown above. The framework has recently been renamed as Te Tūāpapa. Data gathered about the needs and progress of mokopuna informs decisions as to the intensity and duration of support required from RTLB. This can range from providing advice and guidance, to supporting the identification of more intensive and ongoing interventions. Contrary to rumors, RTLB are continuing to provide tailored support to individual students if and when the need arises. In fact, this continues to be where most of our work lies, however is not the most efficient use of a limited resource – see the pie graph above.

Concerns and Complaints

If you have a concern about the practice of an RTLB, we urge you to address the concern with the RTLB as early as possible so that we can provide you with a service you value. Our updated concerns and complaints procedure is attached for your convenience, however it can be found under the spanner on the CMS.

Alternative Education and Porirua Activity Centre

There has been a name change for Wellington and Porirua Alternative Education and the Porirua Activity Centre which are currently located at 28 Kenepuru Drive, Porirua. The name gifted to them by Ngatitōa Iwi is **Praxis Education Kenepuru (PEK)** and they are now known by that name.

When considering whether PEK is the best placement for a student who is on the RTLB role, it would be helpful to engage the relevant RTLB in this conversation. They may be able to support the student's transition into PEK and back to school if this is deemed to be in the best interest of the student.

Inclusive Guides

Don't forget about the range of practical guidance available for Aotearoa kaiako and education leaders available at <https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/> The extensive range of guides will help you to plan for the diverse learning and wellbeing needs of all ākonga.

If you have any questions about the contents of this newsletter, or about the RTLB service in general, please contact me. My contact details are below.

Ngā mihi nui
Lianne