



**ORANGA
TAMARIKI**
Ministry for Children



Learning from the experiences of tāngata whaikaha / disabled people



November 2022

About this document



This document is from **Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Children**.



Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Children is the part of the Government that works to make things better for children.



Oranga Tamariki has been finding out about supporting **oranga** for **tāngata whaikaha**.



Oranga is about living well.



In this document **tāngata whaikaha** means disabled people.



Oranga Tamariki has been listening to what tāngata whaikaha have to say about the:

- **care system**
- **youth justice system.**



The **care system** is how children who cannot live with their parents are looked after.



The **youth justice system** deals with young people who have broken the law.



Oranga Tamariki has also been finding out things by:

- listening to other people who work with children
- looking at things written in the past 10 years about these systems.



There are 6 Easy Read documents about changes to the systems.

The documents are about what Oranga Tamariki found out about:

- the experiences of tāngata whaikaha / disabled people
- what is best to do because of those experiences.





The 6 documents are called:

- What tāngata whaikaha / disabled people said about their experiences with Oranga Tamariki
- Changing the ways Oranga Tamariki works with tāngata whaikaha / disabled people
- Connecting tāngata whaikaha / disabled people with the right support
- Learning from the experiences of tāngata whaikaha / disabled people
- Making services tāngata whaikaha / disabled people want to use
- Making Oranga Tamariki social work services better for tāngata whaikaha / disabled people.



You can find all these documents at:

**[www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/consultations/
supporting-oranga-for-disabled-people/](http://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/consultations/supporting-oranga-for-disabled-people/)**

What tāngata whaikaha told

Oranga Tamariki



Tāngata whaikaha / disabled people told Oranga Tamariki that:

- the ways of getting support are too hard / confusing



- people do not get their rights because of:

- **discrimination**

- **stereotypes**



- not all tāngata whaikaha need the same support



- they are not listened to when plans are made.



Discrimination is being treated unfairly because of something like:

- being disabled
- being Māori
- being a woman.

Stereotypes are thinking people in a group must be all like each other.

For example:

- all Māori like rugby
- all blind people are good at music.



Tāngata whaikaha / disabled people also told Oranga Tamariki that:

- tāngata whaikaha / disabled people can be parents
- tāngata whaikaha / disabled people can look after themselves.
- tāngata whaikaha / disabled people all have **potential**
- the people working with tāngata whaikaha / disabled people need to believe in the potential of .
tāngata whaikaha / disabled people



Potential means you can:

- do / be different things in the future
- learn new skills.

Ideas for change

Tāngata whaikaha / disabled people and other people supporting children had these ideas for change:



- everyone working with tāngata whaikaha / disabled people should understand that tāngata whaikaha / disabled people have a range of different needs
- they should understand these include beliefs to do with their **culture**
- people should get training to change bad ways of thinking about tāngata whaikaha
- people should ask tāngata whaikaha what they think then use that information to support them to make their **goals** happen.



Culture is a way of:

- thinking that a group shares
- doing things as a group.

There are many different cultures in Aotearoa New Zealand like:

- Māori culture
- Pacifica culture
- Deaf culture.

Goals are things you want to do.

Tāngata whaikaha /disabled people and other people supporting children also said that people who work with children need to make sure they do not allow any discrimination in the work they do.

Where to find more information



You can find more on the Oranga Tamariki **website**:

www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/consultations/supporting-oranga-for-disabled-people/



If you have any questions you can:

Phone: 0508 326 459



Email: enquiry@ot.govt.nz

Post to: Oranga Tamariki National Office



PO Box 546

Wellington



This information has been written by Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Children.



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



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