



**ORANGA
TAMARIKI**
Ministry for Children



Connecting tāngata whaikaha / disabled people with the right support



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 way 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 / disabled people told Oranga Tamariki



Tāngata whaikaha / disabled people told Oranga Tamariki that:



- Oranga Tamariki makes decisions about disabled people without them having their say



- it is hard for tāngata whaikaha / disabled people to find safe spaces in their communities



- things should not have to get very bad before people can get help



- tāngata whaikaha / disabled people should decide what support they need along with their whānau / hapū / iwi.



Tāngata whaikaha / disabled people told Oranga Tamariki that it is harder for tāngata whaikaha Māori to connect with their **culture**.



Culture is a way of:

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

There are many different cultures in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Some examples of the different cultures are:

- Māori culture
- Pacifica culture
- Deaf culture.



Ideas for change



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

- tāngata whaikaha / disabled people want support to connect with their:
 - cultures
 - communities
- everyone should get the right support early on before things get very bad
- there should be support for making decisions for:
 - tāngata whaikaha / disabled people
 - their whānau / hapū / iwi.



Where to find more information



You can find more information 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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