



Briefing Note: Launch event for Talking together, Te kōrerorero

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
Copy to:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	19 February 2021	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1249625
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes	Round Robin:	N/A

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is for you to:

1. **Note** that you accepted the invitation to launch new curriculum resources for kaiako in early learning services in December 2020.
2. **Note** that your office has confirmed the launch details as 25 February, 10.00 – 11.00am at Gracefield Early Childhood Centre (ECC) in Lower Hutt, Wellington.
3. **Note** previous Briefing (METIS 1248949) provided background information and example PDFs of the Talking together, Te kōrerorero resources.
4. **Note** collateral is provided in this paper to support you during the launch event.
5. **Agree** that this Briefing will be proactively released.

Agree / **Disagree**

Summary

- You have been invited to launch new oral language curriculum resources for kaiako in early learning. An audience of up to 50 people (including children) is expected and a media presence is also anticipated. Talking points, a run sheet and a draft press release are provided to support you during the launch event.



Nancy Bell
Director, Early Learning
Early Learning and Student Achievement

19/02/2021



Hon Jan Tinetti

Associate Minister Education

19/02/2021

Background

Launch event

1. In December 2020 you accepted an invitation to launch new oral language curriculum resources for kaiako in early learning. An audience of up to 50 people (including children) is expected and a media presence is also anticipated.
2. Talking points, a runsheet and a draft press release are provided to support you during the launch event on Thursday 25 February, 10.00 – 11.00am.

Gracefield Early Childhood Centre

3. Gracefield Early Childhood Centre (ECC) are pleased to host your visit and the launch of Talking together, Te kōrerorero resources.
4. This is a local community-based, all-day early learning service in Lower Hutt that is licensed for 38 children, including up to ten children aged under two years. Of the 50 children enrolled, seven are Māori. Three separate learning areas cater for the different age groups. Families attending the centre represent a range of cultures.
5. Gracefield ECC received a very well placed ERO report in 2017 and a well placed report in 2014. Whole-team professional learning and development (PLD) has focused on enrichment of the education programme for children.

Talking together, Te kōrerorero resources

6. The previous Briefing Note (METIS 1248949) provided example PDFs of the Talking together, Te kōrerorero resources and background information on:
 - a) the online oral language resource launched in October 2020
 - b) the new hard copy resources that will be launched on 25 February, comprised of a book, a set of intentional teaching practice cards and a self-assessment tool
 - c) the distribution of new resources to early learning services and primary schools.

Key Risks and Benefits

7. The launch of Talking together, Te kōrerorero demonstrates the Ministry's commitment to developing the early learning workforce and to supporting the implementation of an oral language focus in the curriculum. It is timely to promote these resources, which provide clear guidance to kaiako on effective teaching practices for oral language and early literacy.
8. The development of Talking together, Te kōrerorero reflects the Ministry's investment in Priority 3 of the National Education and Learning Priorities (NELP), Quality teaching and leadership: Quality teaching and leadership make the difference for learners and their whānau.
9. Talking together, Te kōrerorero is for all children, supporting inclusive practice in the curriculum. It aligns with He Pikorua, the practice framework for Learning Support, and has the potential to support a universal approach to oral language in early learning teaching practice. The information and strategies included in this resource can also be used by primary school teachers when children transition to school.
10. The release of these resources may give rise to commentary about the current regulated standards in ECE and teachers' employment conditions, including access to professional learning and development. Over time actions being progressed through the Early Learning Action Plan will strengthen the provision of quality local curriculum.

Next Steps

11. The Ministry will continue to liaise with your office to ensure a consistent and coherent approach to media communications around the launch and key messages.

Proactive Release

12. We recommend that this Briefing is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annexes

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| Annex 1: | Suggested talking points |
| Annex 2: | Reactive communications – questions and answers |
| Annex 3: | Draft press release |
| Annex 4: | Run sheet |