New plan for early learning

Easy Read
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This is Easy Read information about **He taonga te tamaiti** the draft Strategic Plan for Early Learning.

It is also called the **draft plan** in this document.

**He taonga te tamaiti** is the Māori name for the draft plan.

He taonga te tamaiti means every child is a treasure.

The draft plan has been written by 2 groups of experts and the Ministry of Education.
A **strategic plan** is a document that tells you:
- what we want to do
- how we are going to do it.

**Draft** means that a document is not finished yet.

We want you to tell us what you think about this draft plan.

Go to **page 19** to find out how you can tell us what you think.
What is early learning?

Early learning is the education of children who
- are aged 0 to 5 years old
- are not at school yet.

There are many different types of early learning services.

The government sets rules for all early learning services.

The government also provides some funding.

The draft plan will help us to make choices over the next 10 years about early learning.
Why do we need a draft plan?

We know that early learning is very important.

Early learning can give children a good start in life.

Some children are spending many hours in early learning services.

Some children are going to early learning services when they are very young.

The government wants to make sure the rules for early learning services are right.
The 5 goals in the draft plan

The draft plan has 5 goals.

A goal is something we want to make happen.

The draft plan has 23 ideas for how to make the goals happen.

Goal 1 is to make early learning services better for children.

Goal 2 is for children to have everything they need to learn.
Goal 3 is to get excellent teachers.

Goal 4 is to plan well for early learning services.

Goal 5 is for early learning services to keep getting better.
Goal 1 – to make early learning better for children

There are 7 ideas for ways to make Goal 1 happen.

The 7 ideas are that:

- each adult looks after fewer children in early learning services

- children and adults in the early learning service know each other well
Here are some more of the 7 things we think need to be done:

- more of the teachers are qualified

Qualified means they have done special training to become a teacher

- more work is done to make sure early learning services are nice places to be

- teachers use the curriculum more

The curriculum is the document that says what children need to learn.
Here are some more of the 7 things we think need to be done:

- organisations can only open new early learning services if they are doing good work

- more **monitoring** of early learning services.

**Monitoring** means the Ministry of Education or the Education Review Office would make sure early learning services do a good job.
Goal 2 - children have everything they need to learn

There are 3 ideas for ways to make Goal 2 happen.

The 3 ideas are that:

- extra money from the government is used for children who need it
- we find ways to know if children are:
  - learning well
  - happy.
- more early learning services will offer other government help for families.
Goal 3 - get excellent teachers

There are 4 ideas for ways to make Goal 3 happen.

The 4 ideas are that:

- teachers get better pay
- teachers get better training before they start teaching
- teachers can keep learning while they are working
- we make a plan to get enough early learning teachers.
Goal 4 - plan well for early learning services

There are 6 ideas for ways to make Goal 4 happen.

The 6 ideas are that:

• new learning services can only open where they are needed

• we give more help to early learning services that are owned by the community

• we help early learning services to be next to new primary schools
Here are some more of the 6 ideas for things we think need to be done:

- we agree on a way to **pay** for early learning services with Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust

- we agree on a way to **pay** for early learning services with Playcentre Federation

- the government could **own** some new early learning services
Goal 5 - early learning services keep getting better

There are 3 ideas for ways to make Goal 5 happen.

The 3 ideas are that:

- we help early learning services to try new ways of doing things

- we help early learning services to work with each other and with schools and kura

A kura is a school where the lessons are in Māori.

- we help early learning services to understand how well they are doing.
How will the plan affect you?

Some of the ideas in this plan would cost more money.

The government would need to spend more money on early learning.

Parents would not have to pay for the changes.

The changes would be planned to work well for parents and children.
How can you have your say?

We want to know what you think about the draft plan.

We want to hear from you by the 15 March 2019.

You can tell us what you think by filling in a short survey about the draft plan on our website.

A survey is a list of questions to find out about something.

Here is a link to the short survey about our draft plan.

This short survey is in Easy Read: https://conversation.education.govt.nz/assets/ELSP/Early-Learning-Strategic-10-Year-Plan-Easy-Read-survey.pdf
There is also a longer survey that covers **all** the recommendations in the draft plan.

The long survey is **not** in Easy Read.

If you want more information please

- visit our website

- call us on 04 463 8000

- send us an email at: [early.learning@education.govt.nz](mailto:early.learning@education.govt.nz)