

KAIĀRAHI - TAKIWĀTANGA SUPPORT

What is a Kaiārahi?

The Kaiārahi is a dedicated professional committed to creating an inclusive and supportive environment for taonga takiwātanga and their whānau. The mahi of the Kaiārahi is underpinned by Te Ao Māori approaches to takiwātanga and places the taonga in the context of their whānau. The role of the Kaiārahi is to provide whānau support, quality information, advocacy and act as the bridge between whānau and the system. The Kaiārahi provides the following support:

Information sharing and
whānau support

Navigation

Advocacy

Information sharing and whānau support

From one whānau to another, we are available to support you through your journey. This may include:

- Help you grow your understanding of takiwātanga (autism).
- Consider the needs of your taonga and provide practical strategies and tools you can use at home.
- Provide emotional support during your journey.
- Provide wānanga within different settings on Te Ao Māori perspectives on takiwātanga/understanding takiwātanga, attend school/service provider visits.

Navigation

The Kaiārahi can provide a single point of contact for whānau and assist with exploring options to help support you achieve your goals. This may include:

- Work closely with taonga and their whānau to create personalised support plans tailored to their unique strengths and abilities.
- Assist whānau with understanding what disability and funding supports are available in your region.
- Assist with navigating healthcare, education, and social services.
- Support whānau to build relationships with appropriate services, using existing and new networks.

Advocacy

Advocacy plays a crucial role in promoting understanding, acceptance, and equitable opportunities for taonga takiwātanga. At Kanorau we act as an advocate for taonga and their whānau and can assist with:

- Empowering whānau to have a voice and become self-advocates.
- Provide advocacy support with the aspirations and needs of taonga and their whānau at the center of the process.
- Assist taonga and whānau when transitioning between schools.
- Provide support to whānau, educators, and community members to enhance awareness and acceptance of takiwātanga and promote accessible practices and inclusive values.
- Create strong relationships and partnerships between whānau and kura to ensure everyone is on the same page.
- Work with schools to design and implement systems and processes that help taonga takiwātanga thrive and flourish and transition successfully between settings.
- Advocate for inclusive educational policies, workplace accommodations, and healthcare access.



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Kanorau - Takiwātanga Consultants