



Cluster Manager Update

Kia ora koutou, thanks for reading Te Horanui RTLb Cluster 36's Term 3 newsletter. It's been another whirlwind term, but I hope you are all going to manage to find some time to rest and recharge over the next two weeks! To celebrate Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori, I have shared a words of encouragement resource from Journal Surf. I would like to acknowledge the weight of the demands and expectations being placed on schools, school leaders and kaiako. All of your efforts to support our mokopuna are appreciated and he mea nui koe—you matter!

Budget 2025 Impact

The announcement of details of the LSC roll out over the next few years will have been met with mixed responses I'm sure. For those schools who are going to be employing LSC roles for 2026, we look forward to getting to know these kaiako and working with them next year. For those schools that are not, please continue to utilise supports from your Liaison RTLb. If you have any questions or queries about this roll out, please email learningsupport.engagement@education.govt.nz. There are likely to be some changes to what support might look like in the New Entrant/ Year 1 space with the increased EIT support anticipated. As I mentioned last term, we will work closely with our MOE colleagues to manage this change. Hopefully, I will be able to share more details about this next term. We are currently still waiting for our funding agreement and staffing allocation decisions for 2026 from the MOE, so again hopefully, I will also be able to update on this next term.



Te reo Māori

Words of encouragement

Ka taea e koe!
You can do it

Kia kaha
Stay strong

Kaua e mate wheke
Don't give up

Mauria te pono
Believe in yourself

He mea nui koe
You matter

journalsurf.co.nz

Welcome to my Brain Resource Packs

This term, you should have all received your Welcome to my Brain Resource pack via your Liaison RTLb. Thanks to those that have reached out or passed feedback on to me about how you have used this great resource.

You can use these cards as a staff activity to understand a little more about the wonderful and different brains in your staff, as well as in classrooms or with groups or individual mokopuna.

I have attached a guide below about how to use these as neuro-inclusive workplace tool and a useful game instructions resource.

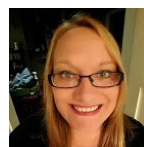


[Ways to use Welcome to my Brain at work](#)

[Welcome to my Brain Game Instructions](#)

Nuts and Bolts of ORS session with Amanda Haywood Zoom session—open to all Wednesday 8th October 3.30pm-4.30pm

We had a great turnout at the Nuts and Bolts of ORS session we held at our Lemonwood Grove office a few weeks ago. This was open to SENCOs, LSCs and School Leaders in Lincoln, Rolleston and Ellesmere. Amanda Haywood, who is back working in our cluster until the end of the year has an immense knowledge of supporting ORS verified learners, as well as supporting schools with ORS suitability the application process. Amanda has also run sessions across Term 3 with the LSCs in Hakatere, Malvern and new SENCOs for Hakatere and Ōpuke. **If you were not part of any of these sessions or weren't able to attend and would like to know about the ORS criteria and hear about Amanda's vast experience with the application process, Amanda will be running a session on Zoom on Wednesday 8th October from 3.30pm-4.30pm. To register for this session, please email manager@rtlb36.school.nz and I will send you the Zoom link.**



Amanda is also planning to head out to Banks Peninsula and visit our Secondary LSC/ SENCO network in Term 4.

Queries about Individual RTLb Practice

If, as a school, you have queries or comments concerning individual RTLb and their mahi, I would encourage you firstly to talk directly to that RTLb, as they are best placed to address these. If, after this interaction, you or your staff feel that it would be beneficial to discuss this issue further, please contact me, rather than the liaison RTLb for your school. If you have any questions or queries about anything in this newsletter, please get in touch. I am always happy to hear from our cluster schools at any time. My contact details are below.

Ngā mihi nui,

Nancy

manager@rtlb36.school.nz, 022 342 7852

In this issue:

- ◆ CM update
- ⇒ Budget 2025 impact
- ⇒ Welcome to my Brain Resource packs
- ⇒ Nuts and Bolts of the ORS process Zoom opportunity
- ⇒ Queries about RTLb Practice
- ◆ Term 3 R4S data
- ◆ Term 3 LSF allocation
- ◆ Karina Schreurs Neuro-informed Zoom Sessions for cluster schools – "Kōrero with Karina"
- ◆ Beginning Kaiako and Mentors feedback
- ◆ SENCO/LSC — Leading Inclusive Practices for Maximum Impact Collaborative Inquiry opportunity 2026
- ◆ New Cluster Library Resources
- ◆ Pūmau Website—some excellent information for kaiako and kura around supporting wellbeing



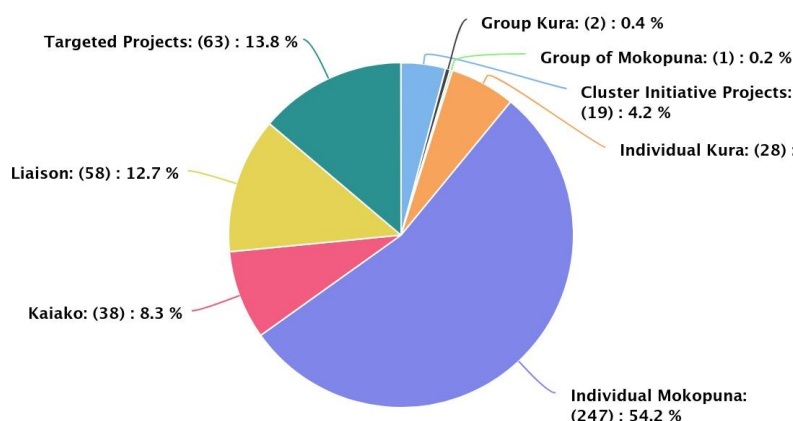
Te Horanui RTLb Mission Statement

To empower kaiako by promoting inclusive, culturally affirming practices that support all mokopuna to thrive

Te Horanui RTLB Principals' Termly Newsletter

RTLB Request for Support Data Term 3 2025

There are currently 305 open requests. This is 60 more requests than the Term 3 newsletter in 2024. In Term 3, we allocated and started supporting 86 new R4S. There are currently 24 incomplete R4S that have been started but not yet submitted on our cluster database. Our liaison RTLB will be supporting schools get submit these for allocation early Term 4. So far within 2025, there have been 456 R4S open at some point within 2025, which include R4S carried over from previous years. 54/58 (93%) of our cluster schools have had an open request for support with our service in 2025.

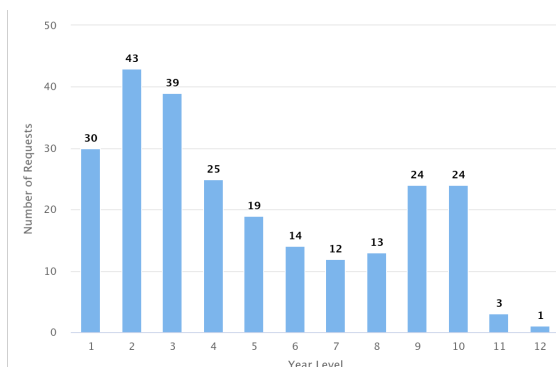


Mokopuna Māori are the only ethnicity group that are over represented in our R4S data. Based on our cluster ethnicity make up, mokopuna Māori are over-represented by over 8%.

As you can see from the pie chart, 10.7% are for Te Matua (universal) support requests for whole kura, groups of kura or cluster initiatives requests, which all cluster schools can be part of (e.g. IYT, IYA, beginning kaiako and mentors support etc.) 35.1% are Te Kāhui (targeted support) requests and these incorporate

kaiako R4S, liaison, groups of mokopuna, and targeted supports (PB4L-SW support, transition to school and Gateway Education Profile request). 54.2% of our mahi across 2025 so far are tailored pieces of work supporting individual mokopuna.

We are still seeing current trends in requests from Year 2, 3, 9 and 10. Year 1 is also displaying a growing trend, which does not include another 30 Transition to School support requests in partnership with the MOE. Comparing our cluster data to national averages, we are proud of our R4S submission to allocation rate, which is 2.1 weeks vs. 2.8 weeks respectively.

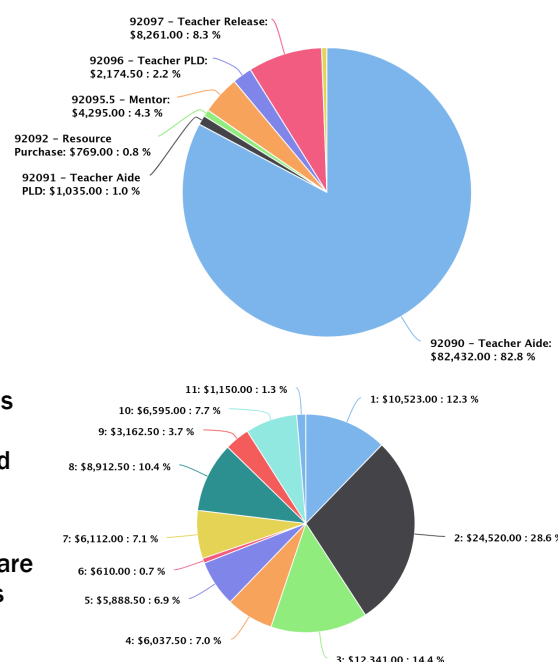


Learning Support Funding Allocation Term 3 2025

So far, we have approved \$99,541.50 learning support funding out to 46/58 of our cluster schools. As you can see, 83% has been used to increase adult presence in learning spaces, 8.3% for teacher release, 4.3% for mentoring supports, 2.2% for teacher PLD. 1% for teacher aide PLD and 0.8% for resource purchases. As well as this total that can go out directly to schools, an additional \$5779.41 has been spent on resources that directly relate to RTLB casework, \$2876.82 on cluster library resources and \$6275.25 on professional development costs for our cluster school kaiako and kaiāwhina. By the end of Term 3, we have spent \$114,472.98 of our LSF budget, which equates to 77% of our annual budget for 2025.

For Te Arotahi tailored (individual mokopuna) requests for supports where LSF has been used, you will see from the pie chart to the right, that over 55.3% of this funding has gone into schools to support in Years 1-3 and putting in those tailored supports early in the child's school experiences.

If your school received LSF for Term 3 and you have not yet completed your outcomes, report, please speak to your casework RTLB. These outcomes reports are useful to measure the effectiveness of the funding and help us to make decisions about future investment of precious learning support funding.



Te Horanui RTLB Principals' Termly Newsletter

Kōrero with Karina Schreurs—Neuro-informed Education PLD Opportunities in Term 4

Following on from our kanohi ki te kanohi sessions with Karina Schreurs in Term 2 and based on the feedback, we are offering a opportunities to connect online with Karina Schreurs, with her knowledge in neuroscience and development as an Occupational Therapist. She will discuss some of the topics identified in the feedback from her presentations earlier in the year. Session 1 will explore a range of practical neuro-inclusive strategies and considerations to set ourselves, our environments and our mokopuna up for success. Session 2 will have a specific focus on supporting successful neuro-inclusive transitions. She will be running two opportunities for each session and so the content will be repeated but the kōrero may differ based on questions and experiences of those attending. We acknowledge time out of the classroom can be tricky for schools, so we are hosting these online sessions in the mornings (7.45am-8.45am), so to have minimal disruption to schools, but allow for maximum impact. These sessions will be free for cluster school kaiako, SENCos, LSCs and School Leaders to attend, so grab a coffee and come and kōrero with Karina.

Session 1—Ourselves, Our Space and Our People - you can choose from Monday 20th October 7.45-8.45am or Friday 31st October 7.45-8.45am.

Session 2— Supporting Transitions - you can choose from Wednesday 29th October 7.45-8.45am or Friday 7th November 7.45-8.45am.

You can read more about Karina Schreurs [here](#).

If you are interested in attending any of these sessions, please use the [registration form](#) attached and you will be sent the zoom link.

Please register your interest by Wednesday 15th October 2025.

It would be great if you would share this [flyer](#) with any of your kaiako you think would benefit from attending these sessions.

If you are interested in digging deeper into neuro-informed education during the holiday break, Karina is also running some full day sessions on a variety of topics. I have linked in the information below

[September Courses](#)



**KŌRERO WITH KARINA
2 PRACTICAL SESSIONS**

Session 1: Ourselves, our Space & our People

- A self check-in and plan.
- What is happening around us?
- Supporting our tamariki & rangitahi with neuro-informed strategies.

Session 2: Supporting Transitions

- Using relationship to build confidence.
- Decreasing stress.
- Increasing reward.

About Karina
Karina Schreurs is passionate about seeing students through a relational and developmental lens considering neurodiversity and the impact of adversity.

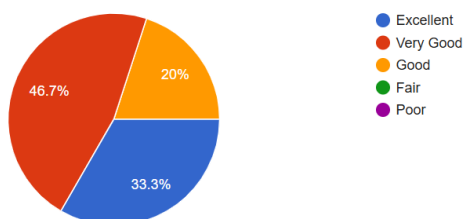
SESSION 1 - CHOOSE FROM MONDAY 20TH OR FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER 7.45AM-8.45AM
SESSION 2 - CHOOSE FROM WEDNESDAY 29TH OCTOBER OR FRIDAY & 7TH NOVEMBER 7.45AM-8.45AM

Cluster Initiatives—Beginning Kaiako and Mentors Workshops Feedback

This term, we concluded our workshop series supporting beginning kaiako and their mentors and I would like to share some of the feedback we received and to demonstrate the impact on those that attended.

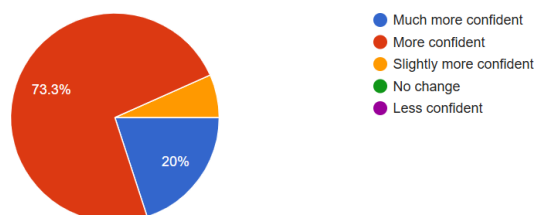
Rate your overall satisfaction with the presentation:

15 responses



Do you feel more confident in supporting neurodiverse students from your learning from the two workshops?

15 responses



"This was so insightful and helpful! I am looking forward to finding new ways to connect, support and up-skill my learners!"

"Super engaging course, really great to listen! Would have loved some strategies I could directly implement to accompany the concepts"

"This has helped me understand a variety of strategies that I can implement to support my ākonga".

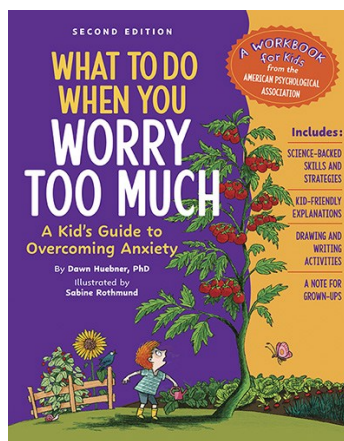
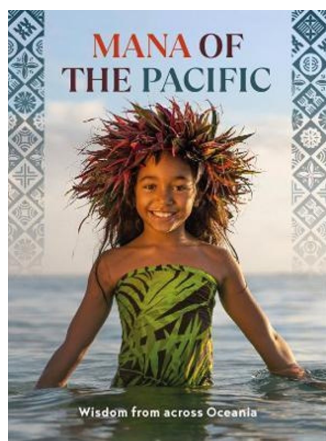
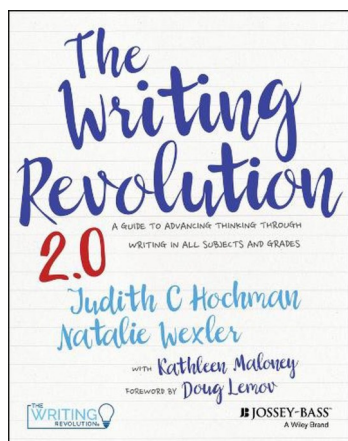
The RTLB that delivered these workshops will be using the feedback and suggested improvements and follow up ideas to plan next step opportunities for participants that attended next term and an email will be going to participants that attended.

Te Horanui RTLB Principals' Termly Newsletter

SENCo/ LSC Collaborative Inquiry Opportunity in 2026—Leading Inclusive Practices for Maximum Impact

As an outcome of one of our annual plan STAR groups this year around Empowering Learning Support and as a response from SENCos, LSCs and RTLB casework, we are looking to facilitate a collaborative inquiry with SENCos, LSCs or School Leaders. This will be for those interested in critically exploring and reflecting on evidence-informed best practice for inclusive approaches and how teacher aides can have the most impact on student outcomes, as well as what this really means for schools. RTLB will facilitate these sessions, but the content of the sessions will be co-constructed with the participants and will draw on resources and frameworks such as ERO's—How Teacher Aides Can Have the Most Impact, Aramai he Tētēkura, the MOE Inclusive Design Modules, Teachers & Teacher Aides Working Together, Universal Design for Learning and Dr. Shelley Moore. This collaborative inquiry will form part of our Te Matua (Universal) supports we are offering to schools in 2026. If this sounds like something you would be interested in being involved in, please email me at manager@rtlb36.school.nz. More information about what this collaborative inquiry might look like in terms of commitment will be shared next term, but I would love to gauge initial interest about this project.

New Resources for the Cluster Library



Here are a selection of new cluster library resources that should be available from our cluster library early Term 4. The resources we have in our cluster library are available for any cluster schools to borrow. You are able to view our library resources by going to <https://nz.accessit.online/RTL02/#!dashboard>. You are able to view as a guest, but you are not able to borrow or reserve on the website. You can create a list of resources you would like to borrow on the website, print this and give it to your liaison RTLB. You can find step by step instructions of how to do this by clicking on the link below.

[Cluster 36 Library Information](#)

Pūmau Website

This [website](#) is too good not to share! I know you may well have been shared this through your Mana Ake Kaimahi or Kaiārahi, but Pūmau has a wealth of culturally affirming and responsive resources for kaiako and kura, especially for our mokopuna Māori, Pacific and English Language Learners.

The Teacher Toolkit offers practical ideas and strategies for supporting mokopuna wellbeing around 'recognizing the ripples', 'Guidance for creating a safe and inclusive classroom', 'Navigating Grief and Loss' and 'Embracing Hauora Māori'. It also has tips for kaiako wellbeing too!

The Classroom Toolkit has a wealth of resources, including ways to recognize and respond to a series of wellbeing challenges for mokopuna and a deep dive into this page is definitely recommended.

The Hauora Māori Toolkit unpacks Te Whare Tapa Whā and offers culturally affirming ways to support our mokopuna, as we know that Hauora Māori or Māori health perspectives can support all mokopuna in all learning environments.

The Pacific Health Toolkit explore the Samoan Wellbeing model Fonofale and Pacific values to support our Pacific learners.

Toolkits for teachers



Teacher toolkit
First steps for teachers.



Classroom toolkit
Approaching a healthy classroom environment.



Hauora Māori toolkit
Māori models of wellbeing.



Pacific health toolkit
Introduction to Pacific health perspectives.

