

COLLECTIVE ACTION FOR IMPACT - ALIGNING TO THE CHILD AND YOUTH WELLBEING STRATEGY

The Strategy framework provides a **shared understanding** of what **children and young people want and need** to live a good life, and what we can all do to help **achieve these outcomes**.

Organisations are invited to **use this guide** in their **planning and activity**, to ensure **greater alignment to the Strategy's framework**.

Questions to prompt thinking *(*Work can include planning, policy, service design and delivery)*

The Vision

The Strategy seeks to remove barriers to wellbeing, and support collaboration across all settings – from the Cabinet table to the kitchen table.

- > Is there a recognition of wellbeing in the work?
- > Where does the work integrate or align with existing actions that are promoting wellbeing?
- > How does the work particularly support or advance the wellbeing of the priority populations: children and young people who are experiencing poverty or socio-economic disadvantage, are of interest to Oranga Tamariki, and those who have greater needs.

The Principles

The principles underpin the successful implementation of the Strategy. They reflect the values New Zealanders have said are most important. Used together they promote wellbeing and equity for all children and young people.

- > In what ways has the value, dignity and mana of children and young people been recognised in the work*?
- > How has an understanding of Māori needs and aspirations been demonstrated? What culturally sustaining kaupapa have been applied, or existing kaupapa initiatives supported?
- > Does the work* respect and advance children's rights as per the [United Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)?
- > What input has there been from children and young people?
- > In what ways does the work* help to achieve equity, including for those with greater needs?
- > Does the work* recognise the child or young person's situation as a whole - are all aspects of wellbeing considered?
- > Are there opportunities for cross-sector work or are there strong links with other work? If so, have these been leveraged?
- > How does the work consider the strengths and aspirations of the family, whanau, hapū or community.
- > How is the work encouraging collaboration, local ownership and collective action?
- > Have you considered how you will measure the effectiveness / impact of the work?
- > Is there opportunity for the work to deliver solutions as early as possible, and build protective factors?

The Outcomes

The outcomes are interconnected and reflect the broader social economic and environmental conditions needed to improve the strengths and overall wellbeing of children and young people.

- > Does the proposal articulate its fit with the outcomes set out in the Strategy?
- > Is there a recognition of other outcomes and how they interact?
- > Is there synergy in direction or are the outcomes competing?
- > Which of the Strategy's indicators will this work move along?
- > Is the work going to have high impact on the outcomes for the age group – is this the best place to focus?
- > If there is no alignment, then should decisions be made not to fund or continue?
- > If population/cohort based, is there an attempt to consider outcomes specific for this group.



**Child and Youth
Wellbeing**



OVERVIEW: THE FRAMEWORK

Our Vision: New Zealand is the best place in the world for children and young people.

CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE ..

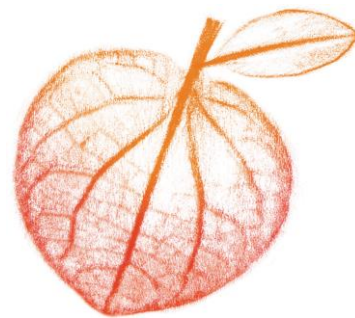
Priorities:

1. Reduce child poverty and mitigate the impacts of poverty and socio-economic disadvantage
2. Better support those children and young people of interest to Oranga Tamariki and address family and sexual violence
3. Better support children and young people with greater needs, with an initial focus on learning support and mental wellbeing

Outcomes



... are LOVED, SAFE and NURTURED



... have WHAT they NEED



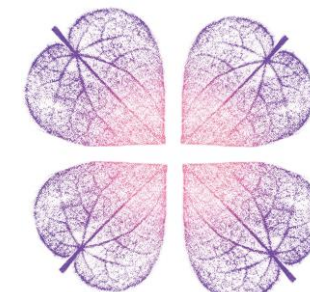
... are HAPPY and HEALTHY



... are LEARNING and DEVELOPING



... are ACCEPTED, RESPECTED and CONNECTED



... are INVOLVED and EMPOWERED

This means:

- they feel loved and supported
- they have family, whānau and homes that are loving, safe and nurturing
- they are safe from unintentional harm
- they are safe from intentional harm (including neglect, and emotional, physical and sexual abuse)
- they are able to spend quality time with their parents, family and whānau

Indicators:

- Feeling loved
- Feeling safe
- Family/whānau wellbeing
- Injury prevalence
- Harm against children
- Quality time with parents

This means:

- they and their parents or caregivers have a good standard of material wellbeing
- they have regular access to nutritious food
- they live in stable housing that is affordable, warm and dry
- their parents or caregivers have the skills and support they need to access quality employment

Indicators:

- Material wellbeing
- Child Poverty: Material Hardship
- Child Poverty: Low income BHC50
- Child Poverty: Low income AHC50
- Food insecurity
- Housing quality
- Housing affordability

This means:

- they have the best possible health, starting before birth
- they build self esteem and resilience
- they have good mental wellbeing and recover from trauma
- they have spaces and opportunities to play and express themselves creatively
- they live in healthy, sustainable environments

Indicators:

- Prenatal care
- Prenatal exposure to toxins
- Subjective health status
- Preventable admissions to hospital
- Mental wellbeing
- Self-harm and suicide

This means:

- they are positively engaged with, and progressing and achieving in education
- they develop the social, emotional and communication skills they need as they progress through life
- they have the knowledge, skills and encouragement to achieve their potential and enable choices around further education, volunteering, employment, and entrepreneurship
- they can successfully navigate life's transitions

Indicators:

- Early learning participation
- Regular school attendance
- Literacy, numeracy and science skills
- Social skills
- Self-management skills
- Youth in employment, education or training

This means:

- they feel accepted, respected and valued at home, school, in the community and online
- they feel manaakitanga: kindness, respect and care for others
- they live free from racism and discrimination
- they have stable and healthy relationships
- they are connected to their culture, language, beliefs and identity including whakapapa and tūrangawaewae

Indicators:

- Ability to be themselves
- Sense of belonging
- Experience of discrimination
- Experience of bullying
- Social support
- Support for cultural identity
- Languages

This means:

- they contribute positively at home, at school and in their communities
- they exercise kaitiakitanga: care of the land and connection to nature
- they have their voices, perspectives, and opinions listened to and taken into account
- they are supported to exercise increasing autonomy as they age, and to be responsible citizens
- they and their families are supported to make healthy choices around relationships, sexual health, alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs

Indicators:

- Involvement in community
- Representation of youth voice
- Making positive choices

Guiding principles

1. Children and young people are taonga.
2. Māori are tangata whenua and the Māori-Crown relationship is foundational.
3. Children and young people's rights need to be respected and upheld.
4. All children and young people deserve to live a good life.
5. Wellbeing needs holistic and comprehensive approaches.
6. Children and young people's wellbeing is interwoven with family and whānau wellbeing.
7. Change requires action by all of us.
8. Actions must deliver better life outcomes.
9. Early support is needed.