

June 2012



Specialist Teacher Outreach Service

The Specialist Teacher Outreach Service provides a specialist itinerant teaching service for students on the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS) who are enrolled in their local schools.

How do ORS students receive this support?

The ORS student's school will need to enter into an agreement with their local Outreach Service provider school to access the service.

Outreach Service provider schools

Outreach Service provider schools are usually special schools or other schools with expertise in providing for students with very high/high needs. These schools employ teachers with specialist knowledge and skills in teaching and supporting students receiving ORS. The Outreach Service itinerant teachers are based and employed by these schools. They travel to local schools to provide specialist teaching services.

What support the service provides

Specialist teachers work as part of a student's support team. They can work with individual students and also provide teaching and learning support to the class teacher/s, local school staff and the student's family or whānau.

They can provide a range of specialist teaching and support activities such as:

- ▶ teaching students within class or small group settings
- ▶ assessing a student's learning needs
- ▶ planning appropriate programmes
- ▶ monitoring student progress and achievement and planning next steps

- ▶ modelling effective teaching strategies and practices for teachers and teachers' aides
- ▶ assisting class teachers to differentiate class and school curriculum content
- ▶ preparing learning programmes
- ▶ adapting and preparing learning materials and resources appropriate for a student's needs
- ▶ making requests to the Ministry of Education, Special Education for specialist services support
- ▶ contributing to Individual Education Plan (IEP) planning and implementation.

How the Outreach Service works

Schools receiving the specialist teacher service transfer their ORS staffing to the Outreach Service provider school to enable them to employ the specialist teacher for the student. The Ministry of Education provides administration and travel funding to the provider school to support the service. A Memorandum of Agreement between the provider school and local school outlines the roles and responsibilities for both schools.

How to access the service

Schools can contact the Outreach Service provider school in their area directly to enrol in the service. Or schools can contact their local Ministry of Education, Special Education office to find out where the Outreach Service provider schools are in their district.

For more information

If you're unclear about any part of the Specialist Teacher Outreach Service or have questions about Special Education services, please talk with staff at your local Ministry of Education, Special Education office or call the Special Education information line on 0800 622 222.

You can get more detailed special education information, including *A Quick Guide to Extra Support*, under the educator section of our website: www.minedu.govt.nz or on Te Kete Ipurangi, a website that provides educational material for teachers and schools: www.tki.org.nz.



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