



## Prioritising mental health and wellbeing needs of children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki

### Cross-agency plan for implementation

Priority area	Driving change		Monitoring change	
	Objectives	Actions	Benefits for children and young people	Indicators / insights
<p><b>1. Identify what a mental wellbeing-promoting and enhancing Oranga Tamariki system* response looks like, including the roles of relevant agencies and interfaces with other systems</b></p>	<p>Agencies from across the Oranga Tamariki system will work together to identify what a good system of support should look like to meet the mental wellbeing needs of children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki and their families and whānau, in an oranga and trauma-informed, holistic and whānau-centred way. This will include consideration of the broader environment that supports mental wellbeing, a focus on whānau-centred, culturally appropriate, wrap-around support services across the Oranga Tamariki system, and the roles of different agencies and providers to meet needs.</p>	<p><b>Manatū Hauora will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the specialist Mental Health and Addiction system for children and young people, focusing on its integration with primary mental health and other wellbeing supports, alignment with best practice and funding models.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2023:</b> Te Whatu Ora will undertake a stocktake of existing service provision and characteristics. Manatū Hauora will undertake evidence reviews and gap analysis, aligned to the integrated service model work and health reforms.</li> <li>• <b>2024:</b> Implementation planning for potential changes to service delivery and/or funding model.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Specifically incorporate populations of interest to Oranga Tamariki within key health system accountability documents, such as Te Pae Tata - interim New Zealand Health Plan and the System and Services Framework. These are the key documents that drive the reformed health system.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2023:</b> Ensure populations of interest to Oranga Tamariki remain in ongoing health accountability documents including the Pae Ora strategies.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Develop a draft implementation roadmap for the new Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (CYWS) mental wellbeing priority, including a theory of change and system map so there are common understandings of what mental wellbeing is, what promotes and harms it, and what the current systems of support and services for it look like.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2023:</b> Work with CYWS agencies to prepare a draft implementation roadmap and begin to deliver it.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Oranga Tamariki and Manatū Hauora will:</b></p> <p>Develop an integrated service model to assess, plan for and meet needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2023:</b> Manatū Hauora, Te Whatu Ora and Te Aka Whai Ora will work with Oranga Tamariki to scope, prepare a work programme and develop an 'integrated service model'. This will include health assessments and supports, including mental health and wellbeing, and cover all settings including youth justice. Where short term actions can be progressed, we will look to do so.</li> <li>• <b>2024:</b> Depending on the work programme, it is likely that phased implementation will begin.</li> </ul>	<p>Children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki will be supported to have their needs met by a well-functioning system.</p>	<p>Indicators will be developed to track changes once further work on the system has progressed.</p>

\*The Oranga Tamariki system refers to the system responsible for providing services or support to children, young people, and their families and whānau under, or in connection with, the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989, including but not limited to health, education, and disability agencies.

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2. Build frontline workers' and care givers' knowledge in identifying and addressing mental health and wellbeing needs	<p>Agencies will investigate the gap in consistent understanding and approaches to meeting needs of children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki across the system. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increasing knowledge of the effects of trauma and the intersection of care and protection and mental health and wellbeing needs on the children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki</li> <li>• supporting effective communication, including common language and shared expectations, around how to respond to the mental health and wellbeing needs of children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki and their families in a holistic, oranga-focused and trauma-informed way across frontline staff of different agencies.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">Under Active Consideration</p> <p><b>Oranga Tamariki will:</b>            Develop a proposal in conjunction with Te Whatu Ora for workforce development across the Oranga Tamariki system for those working with children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2023:</b> Scope the training needs for this workforce and design and develop training as needed. This will include how trauma and abuse impacts on the developing brain and on mental health and wellbeing.</li> <li>• Align the professional development package for all frontline kaimahi, including across care and protection and youth justice residences, through creating a cohesive curriculum framework and establishing a standing service delivery group of internal learning co-ordinators and subject matter experts to deliver the curriculum.</li> </ul> <p><b>In 2023:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver a 12-month foundational induction programme for new social workers and new supervisors and practice leaders, covering both introduction to Oranga Tamariki practice and role-specific training that will include learning the basics in mental health and wellbeing and trauma informed approaches and practice.</li> <li>• Continue developing the Te Waharoa Curriculum Topic Framework of learning and development for staff in care and protection residences, akin to what is available in youth justice residences.</li> <li>• Develop a plan to expand caregivers' access to specialist skills development in supporting neuro-disabilities including FASD, and mental health and disability needs.</li> </ul> <p><b>In 2024:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broaden the learning offerings to specialist areas that could include specialist training modules for caregiver social workers on mental health, disability, addiction, trauma-informed care, and sensory training etc.</li> <li>• Design role-specific learning development pathways in care and protection residences, to support mental health and wellbeing, neurodevelopmental disorders including FASD, suicidal ideation and self-harm.</li> </ul>	<p>Children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki will be supported by frontline workers and whānau and caregivers who are well-informed about the mental health and wellbeing needs of children and young people, how to meet them and how to access appropriate services.</p>	<p>Indicators will be developed as part of the scoping and commissioning of this work.</p>

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3. Improve collaboration and navigation across the Oranga Tamariki system	Agencies will work with other key stakeholders to improve the way mental health and wellbeing supports and services are coordinated and navigated by the children and young people and their families and whānau involved with Oranga Tamariki.	<p><b>Te Whatu Ora and Oranga Tamariki will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop locally-tailored resources for social workers and carers supporting children and young people to access health and oral care services, fulfil health entitlements, and enrol with health care providers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> A web-based provider has been sourced. IT components will be defined and the most appropriate resources for social workers and carers, and a mechanism to ensure they are easily available will be identified. The Paediatric Society are supporting this work.</li> <li><b>2024:</b> Resources will be available for social workers and carers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Investigate options to provide further FTE(s) to support mental healthcare needs of children and young people in residences. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Decisions made and implemented and evaluation designed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Oranga Tamariki and Manatū Hauora will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate where collaboration and navigation is working well, and why. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Oranga Tamariki will investigate locations where mental health providers and Oranga Tamariki are collaborating well, and caregivers and frontline workers are able to navigate the system.</li> <li><b>2024:</b> Oranga Tamariki and Manatū Hauora agree on identified location and learnings that can be applied to other areas.</li> <li><b>2025:</b> roll-out to other locations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Utilise the new cross-agency data and insights group to inform immediate and ongoing priorities and actions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Develop a work programme to achieve group purpose.</li> <li><b>2024:</b> Implement work programme.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Oranga Tamariki, Te Whatu Ora and Manatū Hauora will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition to a new cloud-based practice management system <i>Medtech Evolution</i> to provide a comprehensive health data base for all Oranga Tamariki health providers in residences. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Ensure all personal health providers (including Christchurch and Auckland) will be using the new cloud-based system. Oranga Tamariki will fund on-site training to health providers in the residences to ensure consistent data input across the motu. This will improve the data that can be analysed to identify tamariki health needs.</li> <li><b>2024:</b> Explore opportunities for other health providers providing care to the Oranga Tamariki residence population to use the same IT system for inputting health information, including mental health specialists, private practitioners.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Oranga Tamariki (lead), Manatū Hauora, Te Whatu Ora and Ministry of Education will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the Gateway Assessment programme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Confirm approach to the review of the Gateway Assessment Programme, including taking steps to make improvements in the short term (2023), and make recommendations for longer-term improvements (by the end of 2023).</li> <li><b>2024:</b> Conduct implementation planning in response to the longer-term recommendations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki will have their health needs identified and met early by a coordinated system.</p> <p>Improved information on the health needs of young people in residences, allowing agencies to meet needs.</p>	<p>Indicators or outcome measures will likely be developed after the review of the Gateway Assessment programme, potentially including navigation-related measures.</p> <p>Insights of how change is manifesting on-the-ground may also be provided by the results of Social Worker Insights survey (currently in early development).</p>

Under Active Consideration

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<p><b>4. Increase capacity of existing services and supports for children and young people with moderate to high mental wellbeing needs</b></p>	<p>Agencies will identify options to expand existing services that meet moderate to high levels of mental health and wellbeing needs, which will help to alleviate pressure on specialist mental health and addiction services. These services could include new Access and Choice services, as well as the High and Complex Needs Unit, the Oranga Tamariki clinical services teams, and the mental health services provided in care and protection and youth justice residences, all of which are under high demand and currently do not have the capacity to provide sufficient support to all children and young people who need it.</p>	<p><b>Te Whatu Ora</b> will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand Access and Choice primary mental health and addiction services for youth aged 12 – 24 and for Māori whānau including tamariki and rangatahi. Access and Choice services are for those with mild and moderate mental health and addiction needs, and may help alleviate pressure on specialist mental health and addiction services by providing either a primary or supplementary service and support. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Continue the rollout of the Access and Choice Programme: expand youth focussed services and establish services in the remaining region. Additionally expand Kaupapa Māori services and establish services in two regions.</li> <li><b>2024:</b> Embed Access and Choice services in the health and social sectors through the ongoing health reforms.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Oranga Tamariki (lead) and Te Whatu Ora</b> will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of health needs of children and young people in Oranga Tamariki Care and Protection and Youth Justice residences, and healthcare service provision in these residences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Oranga Tamariki will investigate the current state of health needs and services in residences to ensure a common understanding of the needs and challenges in meeting them.</li> <li><b>2024:</b> Oranga Tamariki and Manatū Hauora will identify and agree a preferred model of care for residences to better meet the health and mental health and addiction needs of this cohort.</li> <li><b>2025:</b> Option implementation and review.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki will have better access to supports and services for moderate high mental health needs.</p>	<p>Monitoring service access by children and young people, with a focus on specific populations, including children involved with Oranga Tamariki where possible.</p>
<p><b>5. Investigate current levels of unmet mental health and wellbeing needs</b></p>	<p>Oranga Tamariki will work with health sector entities to initiate an investigation to understand the barriers for children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki in accessing specialist mental health and addiction services, and the reasons why the health system and Oranga Tamariki are not reliably connecting around individual children and young people.</p>	<p><b>Manatū Hauora and Oranga Tamariki</b> will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a youth voice investigation of mental wellbeing in the Oranga Tamariki population and their communities and whānau <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Manatū Hauora and partner agencies (tbc) will commission and complete a youth voice investigation, listening to what children and young people with Oranga Tamariki involvement want to tell us about their views on mental wellbeing, what supports and harms it, and what the Oranga Tamariki system should do differently.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Oranga Tamariki and Manatū Hauora</b> will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake an analysis of the Oranga Tamariki population in the Growing Up In New Zealand (GUINZ) survey data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Manatū Hauora and Oranga Tamariki will work with the GUINZ project team to identify the mental wellbeing needs, strengths and trajectories of the study participants (now aged 14) with Oranga Tamariki involvement.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Undertake a review of recent data on mental health and problematic substance use in children and young people <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2023:</b> Review will be completed highlighting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Common measures used to understand prevalence of mental health conditions and problematic substance use for children and young people.</li> <li>A summary of available information on mental health conditions and problematic substance use in children and young people from the last 5 years.</li> <li>Identification of evidence gaps or weaknesses in these areas.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Children and young people involved with Oranga Tamariki who are currently facing barriers to having their mental wellbeing needs met will have an opportunity to express their needs to decision makers to influence future changes.</p>	<p>This is an investigative focus area, so indicators will be developed as work progresses.</p> <p>Findings and recommendations from exploratory research will inform targeted action and measures that monitor change as a result of action taken.</p>