

ADVOCACY KETE: Staff/Kaimahi



Kia ora koutou

This kete is designed to help staff advocate for democracy, participation, and policies that benefit children and families in the 2026 election.

Everyone's voice needs to be heard. Political decisions have a major effect on families' lives – everything from housing to benefit levels, food in schools to the costs of doctors. Encouraging democracy links to our vision – ***to be a strong advocate for tamariki and whānau.***

Help spread the word about enrolling and voting throughout our kindergartens, our services, and our communities!

Our priority is to make sure people get on the electoral roll in time to vote! Voting has been made harder this year, with the rolls closing earlier and no ability to enrol on election day, or to enrol and vote at the same time during early voting. **Everyone must enrol by 25 October. Advanced voting starts on 26 October.**

Our other main priorities are quality early childhood education with **qualified** teachers, and sufficient **funding** to make education affordable for children and families.

For further information and resources go to:



Everyone's voice needs to be heard.

Enrolling to vote

Let's get everyone on the roll!

Last election, nearly one million people didn't vote.

This time, it is harder to get on the roll, with rolls closing earlier and no ability to enrol and vote at the same time.

Rolls close on October 25.

Display from Discovery Kindergarten

How to enrol

Everyone must be enrolled at the correct address by October 25th in order to vote on November 7th.

HOW TO ENROL BY OCTOBER 25th

1. Fill out the form online at: [Vote.nz](https://vote.nz)

a. You will need an ID (NZ passport, NZ driver's licence or RealMe) for this. If you don't have one it may be easier to fill out a hard copy and post it.

OR

2. Fill out a paper form and return it by:

a. Post to: Electoral Commission, Freepost 2 Enrol, PO Box 190, Wellington 6140.
b. Email to: enrol@vote.nz - a photo or scan of form.
c. Upload form at: vote.nz/upload

HOW TO UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS BY OCTOBER 25th

Moved house? Move your enrolment details too. Your enrolment address should be the last place you lived in NZ for one month or more.

1. Update online at vote.nz (with an NZ passport, NZ driver's licence or RealMe).
2. Fill out paper form and return (same form and return process as enrolling)

HOW TO CHECK YOUR ENROLMENT DETAILS

You can check your enrolment details online at vote.nz. If you're unsure, it is best to enrol to vote anyway. There is no harm in enrolling more than once!

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENROL AND VOTE IF:

- Over 18 and
- You are a NZ Citizen OR
- You are in NZ legally for 12 months or more. You don't necessarily need to be a permanent resident.

For further details around who is eligible visit vote.nz

ELECTION 2026

ENROL TO VOTE
in the 2026 election!

DEMOCRACY ONLY WORKS
IF YOU PARTICIPATE!
PLEASE VOTE

RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW

Voting is important, but to do so you must be enrolled by 25 October.

You can enrol right here, right now by:

- Filling out the paper form
- Enrolling online on vote.nz

<https://vote.nz/enrolling/enrol-or-update/enrol-or-update-online>

SCAN ME
to enrol to vote!

Please take one
if you prefer to
register using a
copy

It takes less than two minutes to enrol online.

Actions: Enrol Right Here Right Now

- ✓ Make a display encouraging your families to get on the roll
- ✓ Make it easy for families – with a laptop so they can enrol online at <https://vote.nz/> (A passport, Driver's Licence or similar ID is needed)
- ✓ Print off forms for those who prefer paper, or who don't have ID. You can support people to fill in the form if they need help. Forms are at <https://vote.nz/>
- ✓ Have a box with a slot to keep forms secure. Post them to **Freepost 2 Enrol PO Box 190 Wellington 6140**. Make sure they sign. Make sure you post! Respect the confidentiality of the forms – you can't use them to update addresses or any other details.
- ✓ You can also scan and email paper forms to **enrol@vote.nz**
- ✓ You can also photograph forms and email to **enrol@vote.nz**
- ✓ Use the Electoral Commission's Resources. You can print off material in languages that suit your community.
Here's the link: <https://elections.nz/getting-involved/download-resources>
- ✓ If people are enthusiastic, you can photograph them enrolling and post on your kindergarten Facebook page. Encourage them to use social media to help get people enrolled.
- ✓ Tell everyone you know to enrol. Encourage friends, and everyone to get involved. People listen to those they know and trust. Can you find five people to enrol?

Anyone who has lived in NZ for 12 months and is a resident (need not be a permanent resident) can enrol.

For the Māori roll, anyone wishing to change to or from the Māori roll this needs to happen by August 6.

Anyone who is 17 and turning 18 before November 7 can enrol now.

There are details on how people can enrol from overseas, and about the confidential roll for those who need to keep their address private, for safety reasons.

Qualified teachers

The government is looking to downgrade teacher qualification requirements which will compromise safety and quality for children, despite widespread opposition from throughout the sector.



Actions:

- When any announcement is made about teacher qualifications, alert your families to the significance of changes, and the relationship between qualified teachers and quality for children.
- Help make qualified teachers in early childhood education an election issue.
- Email your MP with your concerns, share on your Facebook page, and print off the email (and any response) to share with families.

Funding

A government appointed review group has suggested cutting kindergarten funding.

Government funding effects our services.

The current government has also kept funding increases well below inflation, meaning an effective cut.

Funding affects the cost to parents and whānau, staffing levels and the extra support we can offer families. It can also affect non-contact time, property programmes and our ability to open new kindergartens and provide new services.

If we lose funding and are forced to increase costs, some families will miss out, which could affect our rolls and our funding further

Actions:

- Email your MP about any funding options and explain how funding short fall affects children, families, society and education generally.
- Tell your families about the government agenda to cut our funding.
- Attend campaign meetings and speak up about early childhood education.
- Use social media to highlight our concerns.
- Watch for other suggested actions as part of our campaign.