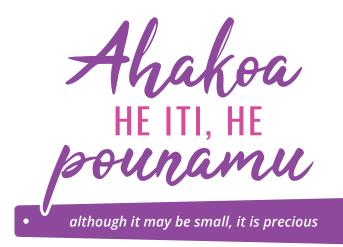
# child & youth wellbeing



A toolkit to **guide engagement** with community groups, whānau, and families on the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

## PURPOSE OF THIS TOOLKIT

This Toolkit is for community groups, whānau and families to have a say on the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.



The Toolkit was designed and developed by the Child Wellbeing Unit in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

It provides guidance about how groups and whānau can share ideas about making New Zealand the best place in the world to be a child or young person.

Please submit all responses by 5 December 2018



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**DEPARTMENT** OF THE **PRIME MINISTER** AND **CABINET** TE TARI O TE PIRIMIA ME TE KOMITI MATUA



child & youth wellbeing

## BACKGROUND

## child & youth wellbeing

The Child Poverty Reduction Bill requires the creation of New Zealand's first Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy. The Strategy commits government to set desired outcomes for children and young people and report on its actions to improve their wellbeing. While the strategy will address the wellbeing of all children and young people, there is a particular focus on those with greater needs or of interest or concern to Oranga Tamariki. It will also tackle child poverty and the impacts of socioeconomic disadvantage experienced by children. A proposed vision for the Strategy has been developed:

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# New Zealand is the best place in the world for children and young people.

## The principles underpinning our work include:

- The inherent dignity and value of children and young people.
- The wellbeing of children and young people is interwoven with the wellbeing of the family and whānau.
- That networks of loving, trusting, caring relationships are at the heart of children's and young people's wellbeing.
- The foundational role of the Treaty of Waitangi and the importance of the Crown-Māori partnership in work to promote the wellbeing of New Zealand's children and young people.
- That children's and young people's voices and views should be taken into account in developing and implementing the Strategy and in important decisions affecting them.
- The rights contained in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which New Zealand has ratified.
- We have collective responsibility to nurture the children and young people in our communities, and to support and value the adults who are caring for them

Themes from submissions, along with other feedback from public engagement, will provide insights and perspectives to inform the development of the initial Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy. For additional information about the policy development process for the Strategy, please refer to the DPMC website:



dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/childand-youth-wellbeing-strategy/policydevelopment

## WHY YOUR SAY IS IMPORTANT?

We want all New Zealanders to have their say on what the Strategy should focus on.

We want to hear from children, families, and whānau themselves, local government, iwi, service providers, academics and the nongovernment organisation (NGO), business and community sectors. We also want to learn from successful community-led initiatives.

We believe community groups and whānau have valuable views to share. Community and whānau involvement will be key to improving wellbeing for children and young people in New Zealand. This toolkit is designed for community groups and whānau to share views on the major priorities for improving child and youth wellbeing, and what specific activities are needed.

Themes from toolkit responses, alongside other engagement feedback, will provide insights and perspectives to inform the development of the first Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.

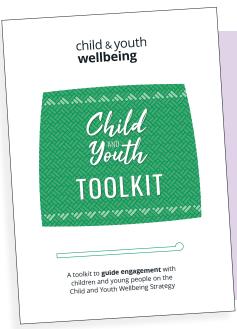
## USING THE TOOLKIT

This 'toolkit' will help guide your group or whānau to have a group conversation around some key questions important to the development of the first Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.

The toolkit contains a recording template for conversations to be written up and sent back to DPMC.

#### This toolkit has three parts:







#### Tailored toolkit for children

The Office of the Children's Commissioner has a toolkit tailored for children to have their say on the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy. This is available for download here:

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## OTHER WAYS TO HAVE YOUR SAY

In addition to the toolkit there are a number of ways to share your views on the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.

#### You can:

- complete the Child and Youth Wellbeing Survey (children and young people)
- complete the Child and Youth Wellbeing Survey (for adults)
- send the Prime Minister an e-postcard about the ONE thing that children and young people need to have good lives, now and in the future
- make a formal submission.

More information is available on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website at

WWW

dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/child-and-youth-wellbeing-strategy



Thank you for helping the voices of community groups, whānau, and families to be heard

## PART 1

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Use this guide to start a conversation about what children and young people need to have a good life

# This section outlines how to plan your group conversation, and run your discussion, and how to send us back a summary.

#### **Planning ahead**

Before you begin, think about who you want to invite to your group conversation.

We recommend limiting numbers to 20 participants for your session. If you have a larger group it may be useful to split into smaller groups and report back together at the end of the session.

We recommend sending participants the following video message from the Prime Minister in advance or playing this at the beginning of your session:



dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/child-andyouth-wellbeing-strategy/have-your-sayadults

You may wish to have materials on hand to record the conversation as it unfolds. Using a flipchart, post-it notes, or writing notes on a whiteboard are all good ways of keeping track of your discussion.

#### **Suggested format**

While there is no set format for a discussion, it will help to have an agenda. We suggest setting aside at least an hour for your conversation. A possible agenda is:

#### Welcome and introductions

(10 minutes)

- Explain the purpose of the session
- Introductions.

#### Discussion of questions one to four (as set out in Part Two) (20 minutes)

- Explain the questions (display them on a flipchart or whiteboard)
- Ask participants to think about the first question on their own for a minute or two and then share with the person next to them
- Discuss answers to the first question as a group
- Take notes of the conversation using the template provided
- Repeat for the additional questions.

Take a short break

#### Discussion of questions five to seven (see Part Two) (20 minutes)

• Follow the process outlined – be sure to take notes of the conversation.

#### Wrap up and conclusion (10 minutes)

- Ask participants to reflect on what idea or concern they felt was most important
- Explain that a summary of the conversation will be sent to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. It will inform the development of the initial Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.
- You should also make it clear to participants that feedback from the conversation will be written up and sent to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. You do not need to record individual names or personal information when writing up your notes.

## PART 2

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Use this guide to start a conversation about what children and young people need to have a good life

## **KEY QUESTIONS**

This section outlines how to plan your group conversation, and run your discussion, and how to send us back a summary.

There are a total of six questions we would like you to discuss. You are also welcome to share additional insights unrelated to these questions. The questions are arranged in two sections: Section one questions about the wellbeing of children and young people 9

(questions one to four)

Section two questions about the design of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

(questions five to seven)

### Section 1

### Questions about the wellbeing of children and young people

- 1. What does a good life mean for children and young people in New Zealand?
- 2. What are the things that get in the way of good wellbeing for children and young people?
- 3. What helps children and young people to have a good life?
- **4.** What is the one thing you want to tell the Prime Minister about what children and young people need to have good lives, now and in their future?

## **KEY QUESTIONS**

## Section 2

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### Section two questions about the design of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

**5.** A "vision" is one sentence that describes what we hope that the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy will achieve. The proposed vision for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy is:

"New Zealand is the best place in the world for children and young people." "Ko Aotearoa te tino whenua o te ao mō te tamariki me te rangatahi"

Do you have any comments on the proposed vision?

6. We have identified five key areas of wellbeing. These are:

- Children and young people...
- are happy and healthy / e harikoa ana, e noho hauora ana
- are loved, nurtured and safe / e arohatia ana, e poipoia ana, e haumaru ana
- have what they need / e tutuki ana ō rātou hiahia
- belong, contribute & are valued / e whai wāhi ana, e tautoko ana, e tiakina ana hei kura
- are learning and developing / e ako ana, e whanake ana

Do these five key areas cover what "good wellbeing" means to you? Tell us what "good wellbeing" is in your own words?

## **KEY QUESTIONS**



**7.** There are many areas we could focus on to improve the wellbeing of children and young people in New Zealand. As a group please select up to six areas from the list below that we should focus on first.

	Children and young people's autonomy and rights (eg. ability to be heard and participate in decisions affecting them)		Housing quality and affordability			
	Resources and access to services for disadvantaged children		Ensuring cultural identity is recognised, enhanced and supported			
	Supporting the parents of children under 2 years (including during pregnancy)		Reducing the number of children and young people in poverty			
	Supporting mental wellbeing		Supporting young people leaving school into training or employment			
	Ensuring homes are safe, loving and free from violence and criminal activity		Enabling young people to make positive, informed choices (eg. about alcohol and sexual relationships)			
	Building skills and knowledge for life		Ensuring children are able to play and have fun			
	Freedom from racism, discrimination, and stigma		Reducing accidental injury (eg. road accidents, drowning)			
	Addressing bullying and building positive social skills		Opportunities and outcomes for children with disabilities			
	Contributing to civic life and the protection of the environment		Enabling healthy lifestyles (nutritious food, exercise and sleep)			
	Social and emotional development of young children (ages 2 - 6)		Enabling quality time with family and whānau			
Something not on this list (please specify)						



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Use this guide to start a conversation about what children and young people need to have a good life

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This section outlines how to plan your group conversation, and run your discussion, and how to send us back a summary.



We suggest you nominate a note taker to write the notes up on a computer either at the time or afterwards.

Please use the attached Recording Sheets to summarise your conversation.

Once you have completed your Recording Sheet, please forward it to:

www childandyouthwellbeing@dpmc.govt.nz

Please use the above email address if you have have any questions or comments about the upload process also.

All information must be sent back to DPMC by 5 December 2018.



For recording the perspectives of group participants.

Date:		
Location:		
Describe your group:		
Contact person:		
Contact phone number:		
Contact email:		

### Demographics

How many people were involved in your session?

What was the age range of people in your session?

Any additional information you want to share about the people in your group (eg ethnicity, type of group etc)?

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Write what your group spoke about. You can summarise what you heard and include quotes.

What does a good life mean for children and young people in Aotearoa?

What are the things that get in the way of good wellbeing for children and young people?

What helps children and young people to have a good life?



**4.** What is the one thing you want to tell the Prime Minister about what children and young people need to have a good life?

5. Do you have any comments on the proposed vision?

**6.** Do the five key areas cover what 'good wellbeing' means to you? Tell us what 'good wellbeing' is in your own words.



#### 7. What are the things that support good wellbeing for children and young people?

	Children and young people's autonomy and rights (eg. ability to be heard and participate in decisions affecting them)		Housing quality and affordability			
	Resources and access to services for disadvantaged children		Ensuring cultural identity is recognised, enhanced and supported			
	Supporting the parents of children under 2 years (including during pregnancy)		Reducing the number of children and young people in poverty			
	Supporting mental wellbeing		Supporting young people leaving school into training or employment			
	Ensuring homes are safe, loving and free from violence and criminal activity		Enabling young people to make positive, informed choices (eg. about alcohol and sexual relationships)			
	Building skills and knowledge for life		Ensuring children are able to play and have fun			
	Freedom from racism, discrimination, and stigma		Reducing accidental injury (eg. road accidents, drowning)			
	Addressing bullying and building positive social skills		Opportunities and outcomes for children with disabilities			
	Contributing to civic life and the protection of the environment		Enabling healthy lifestyles (nutritious food, exercise and sleep)			
	Social and emotional development of young children (ages 2 - 6)		Enabling quality time with family and whānau			
Something not on this list (please specify)						