

Students with High Learning Needs

Guidelines for Service

NCRTLBN

2013

Guideline 1 - RTLBN service and HLN students.

It is important to note that:

- Students with significant learning difficulties can be referred to the RTLBN service at any time.
- They are able to access support on a number of occasions throughout their educational pathways.
- The needs of these students may be addressed by schools making individual, group or systemic RTLBN referrals for learning.
- A student becomes eligible for long term RTLBN involvement when they meet the criteria below. It is at this point that a student holds a HLN place.
- HLN placement is additional to and does not replace the existing support a student has to assist with accessing the curriculum.
- For the remainder of 2013 the HLN students are considered to be in transition from the previous Supplementary Learning Support model to the RTLBN model. While there may be some 1-1 teaching offered to the student over the next three terms this will be dependent on the resources and support available in the school.
- RTLBNs will work with schools to develop long-term, sustainable educational plans for these students. From 2014 HLN students will access normal RTLBN service on a long-term basis.
- NCRTLBN as a cluster can sustain 17 HLN places.
- There is no extra funding allocated to these students.

Guideline 2 - Eligibility for HLN

- The student's achievement in literacy and numeracy is at Level One of the NZ Curriculum, therefore they would typically be classified between a Years 3-11.
- Progress is limited despite intervention and additional learning support to help the student access the curriculum.
- The student has a history of intensive use of special education and other specialist resources such as RTLBN.
- Schools will have and will still be, providing a significantly adapted programme through SEG, LSF or GSE and be documented in an IEP or CAP.

- Typically the student will have had or be receiving any or some of the following support.
 - Early intervention
 - Speech language therapy
 - GSE behaviour intervention
 - Moderate physical initiative
 - Had an ORS application declined
 - Has had involvement with other health professionals.

Guideline 3 - Referral

- The student will be currently on the RTLB roll.
- In partnership with the school the RTLB will complete the referral on the ERS ticking the HLN box.
- Clear student achievement data will be provided and this information will be under 3 months old.
- These referrals will be waitlisted via normal RTLB referral processes. HLN status will be allocated on a **needs basis** as spaces become available.
- The levels of previous intervention will be taken into consideration during the decision making process.
- The decision to allocate HLN will be made by a group of RTLBs including the Cluster Manager, a Practice Leader and 2 other RTLBs.
- Schools will be kept informed.
- Students who arrive from other clusters who are identified as having existing HLN support will have an RTLB involved in their transition into their new school. Any decision regarding placement will be made using the data collected during the transition time. These students will take a high priority rating in the referral process.

Guideline 4 - Withdrawal

Criteria

- Students will be withdrawn if they have been performing at Level 2 for Literacy or Numeracy for **two** consecutive terms.

When

- An annual review of all HLN students will take place at the first referral and intake meeting in Term 3. This allows for transition planning both for those students who may be withdrawn and for students who may face a major transition such as moving from primary to intermediate, or intermediate to secondary school.
- Students may also be nominated for withdrawal, in consultation with the school during the school year, through the RTLB referral process.

Final assessment

- If a student meets the criteria for withdrawal a final assessment must be completed by the RTLB lead worker and submitted to the Cluster manager. The Cluster Manager will inform the school and whanau in writing when a student is withdrawn.