



**Child and Youth
Wellbeing**

**Child Wellbeing Forum
Parliament House, Hobart
Thursday 12 September**

**By Maree Brown
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Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, New
Zealand**



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

PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE



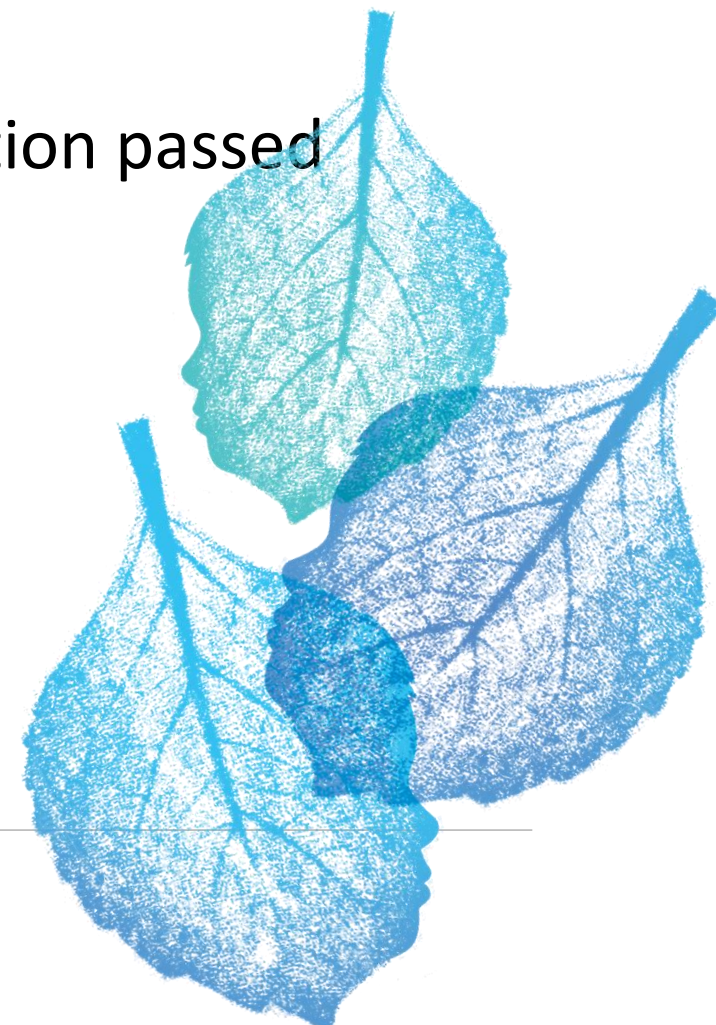
OVERVIEW



- » Background
- » Approach to wellbeing
- » Child poverty and child wellbeing legislation
- » New ways of working
- » A focus on improving equity of outcomes
- » Implementation and measuring progress

BACKGROUND

- » From early 2000s: growing concern about child poverty
- » Strong focus of 2017 General Election
- » Late 2017: New Government, new wellbeing approach and new portfolio - Minister for Child Poverty Reduction
- » March 2018: Child Wellbeing and Child Poverty Units set up
- » Dec 2018: Child Wellbeing and Child Poverty Reduction legislation passed

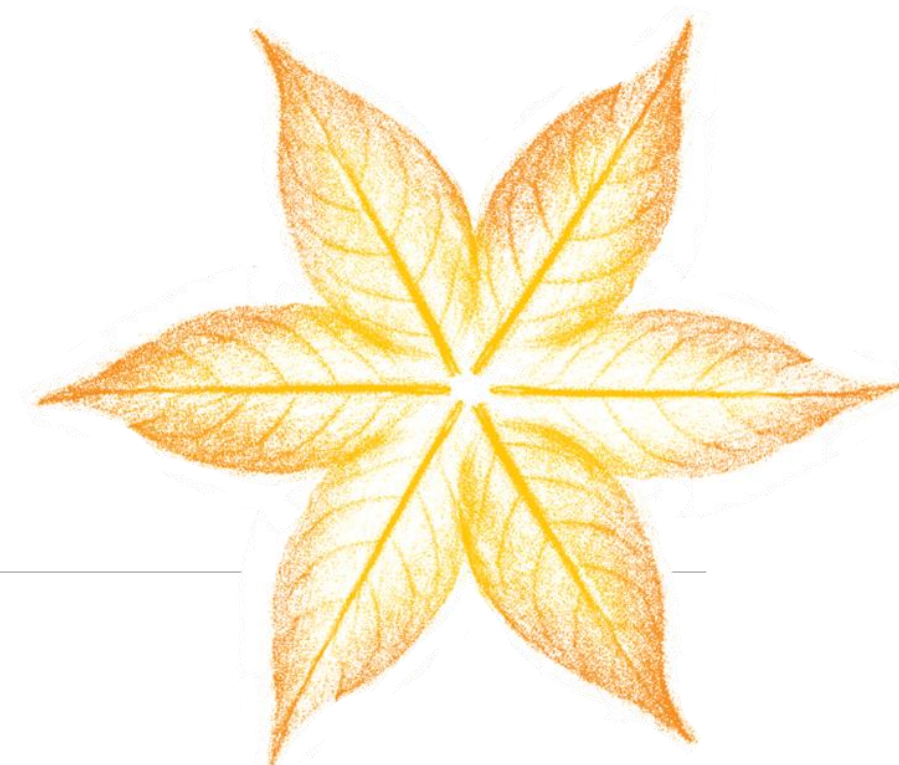


A BROADER FOCUS ON WELLBEING

Wellbeing is when people have the capabilities to lead fulfilling lives of purpose, balance and meaning to them (Budget 2019)

Involves:

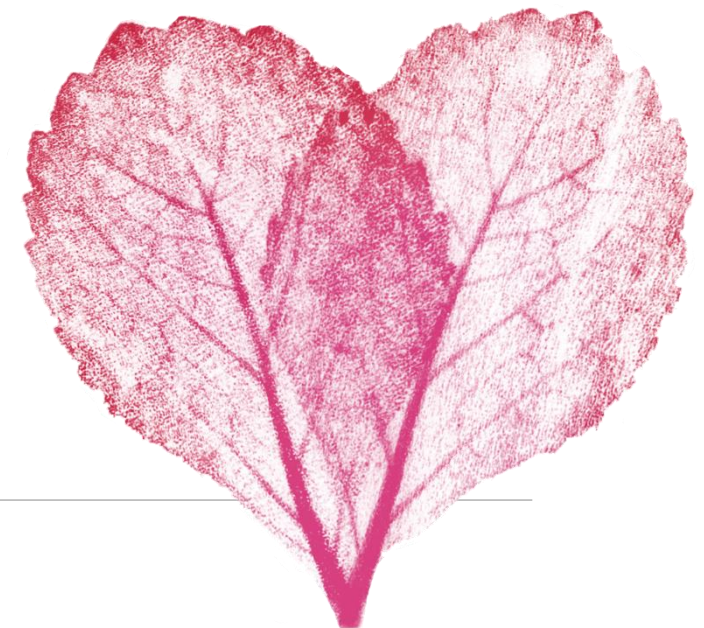
- » better use of wellbeing data and evidence in policy advice (Living Standards Framework)
- » Looking at intergenerational impacts
- » breaking down agency silos



CHILD POVERTY REDUCTION LEGISLATION

Child Poverty Reduction Act (2018) creates political accountability by requiring successive Governments to:

- » set long-term (10-year) and intermediate (3-year) targets
- » report annually on child poverty measures
- » report each Budget Day on how the Budget will reduce child poverty and on progress towards the targets
- » report on child poverty related indicators.



REDUCING CHILD POVERTY

Dear Prime Minister,

I think the one thing that children and young people need to have good lives, now and in the future is...

to make sure ~~to~~ that people
get lunch and so that they
get warm places to sleep
and warm clothes.



CHILD AND YOUTH WELLBEING STRATEGY

New legislation requires successive Governments to set outcomes and policies to improve ALL children's wellbeing, with a focus on:

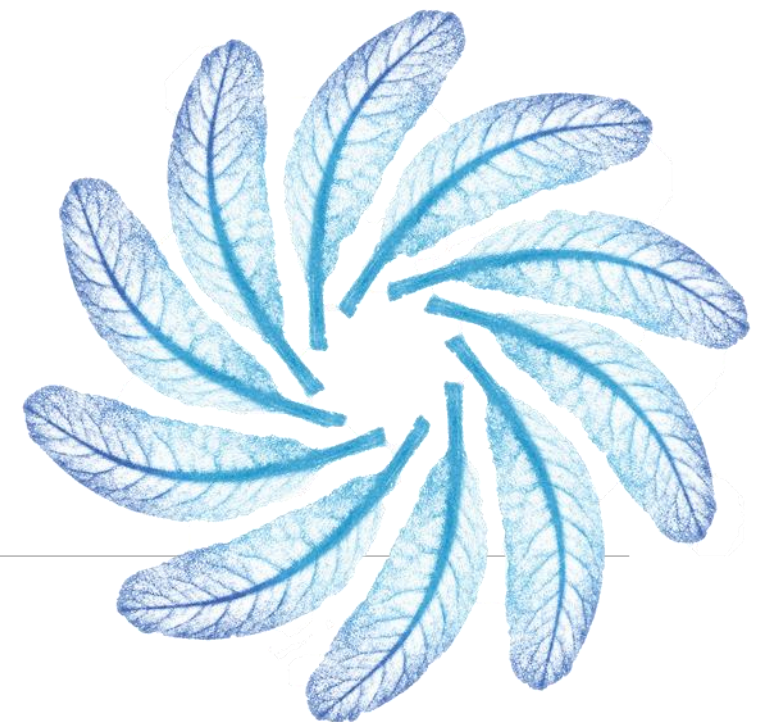
1. children with greater needs
2. child poverty and socio-economic disadvantage
3. children of interest or concern to Oranga Tamariki.

» Minister must:

- engage with children, with Māori and with Children's Commissioner
- report annually to Parliament on outcomes for different groups
- review/refresh the Strategy every three years.

WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS STRATEGY?

- » Joint Ministerial and cross-agency leadership
- » Focuses on what matters to children and young people
- » Holistic approach that requires everyone to work together
- » A national plan, that gets everyone on the same page
- » An ongoing requirement, rather than a 'one-off' exercise
- » Underpinned by legislation.



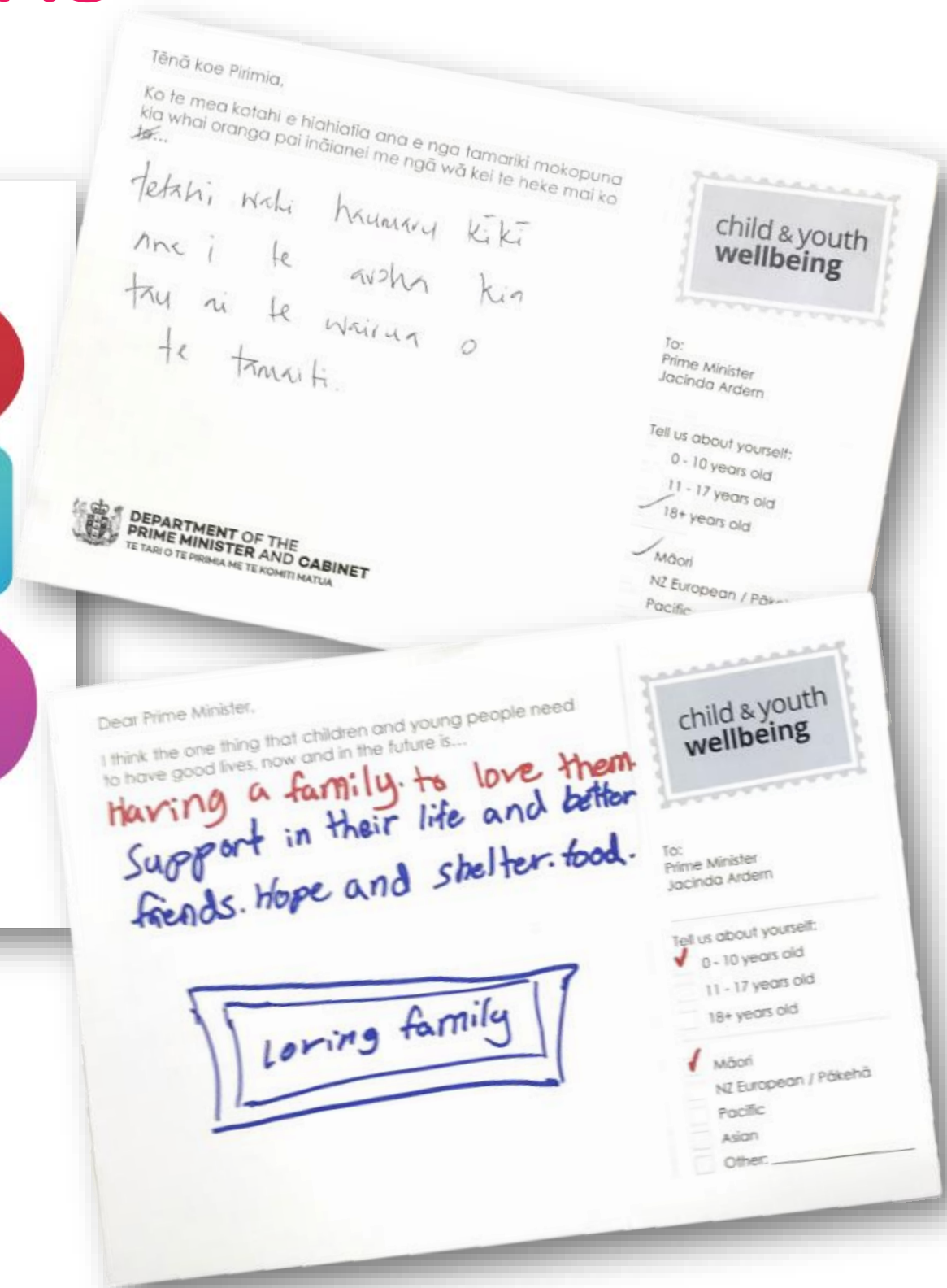
TESTING OUR THINKING AND LISTENING TO OTHERS

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



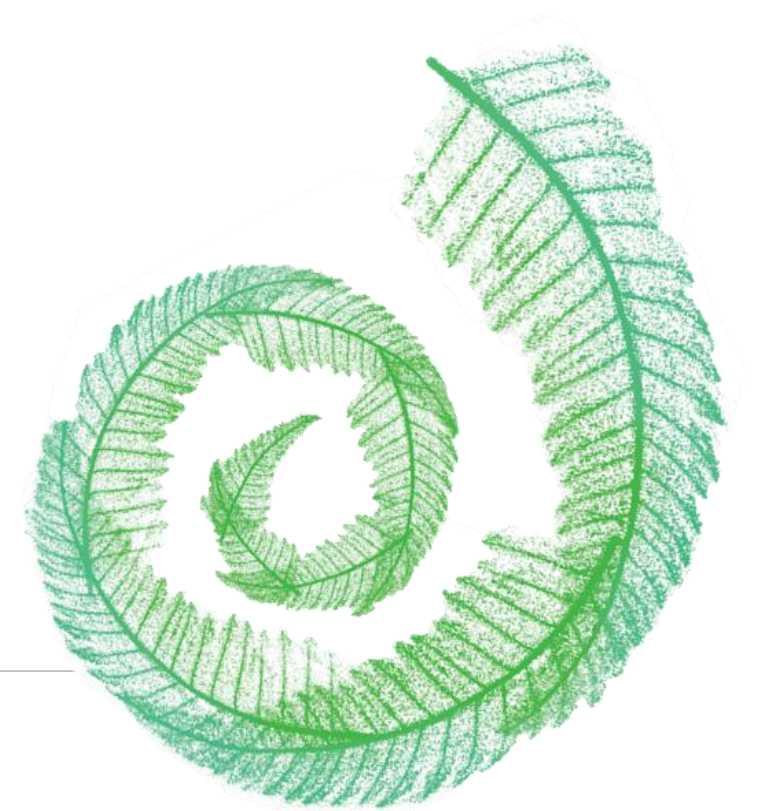
Use this postcard to tell us what you think is important!

Got more to say? Take the survey! www.dpmc.govt.nz



INSIGHTS FROM CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- » Accept us for who we are and who we want to be.
- » Life is really hard for some of us.
- » To help us, help our whānau and our support crew.
- » We all deserve more than just the basics.
- » How you support us matters just as much as what you do.



OVERVIEW: THE FRAMEWORK

Our Vision: New Zealand is the best place in the world for children and young people.

CHILDREN and
YOUNG PEOPLE ..



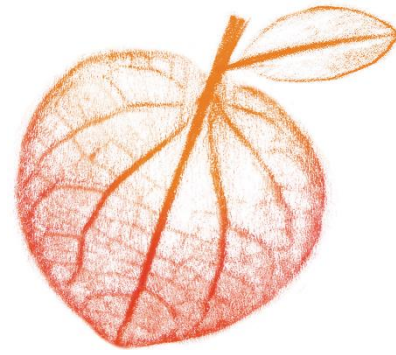
... are LOVED, SAFE
and NURTURED

This means:

- they feel loved and supported
- they have family, whānau and homes that are loving, safe and nurturing
- they are safe from unintentional harm
- they are safe from intentional harm (including neglect, and emotional, physical and sexual abuse)
- they are able to spend quality time with their parents, family and whānau

Indicators:

- Feeling loved
- Feeling safe
- Family/whānau wellbeing
- Injury prevalence
- Harm against children
- Quality time with parents



... have WHAT
they NEED

This means:

- they and their parents or caregivers have a good standard of material wellbeing
- they have regular access to nutritious food
- they live in stable housing that is affordable, warm and dry
- their parents or caregivers have the skills and support they need to access quality employment

Indicators:

- Material wellbeing
- Child Poverty: Material Hardship
- Child Poverty: Low income BHC50
- Child Poverty: Low income AHC50
- Food insecurity
- Housing quality
- Housing affordability



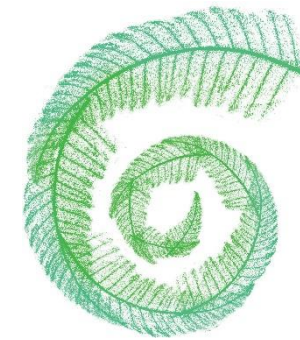
.. are HAPPY
and HEALTHY

This means:

- they have the best possible health, starting before birth
- they build self esteem and resilience
- they have good mental wellbeing and recover from trauma
- they have spaces and opportunities to play and express themselves creatively
- they live in healthy, sustainable environments

Indicators:

- Prenatal care
- Prenatal exposure to toxins
- Subjective health status
- Preventable admissions to hospital
- Mental wellbeing
- Self-harm and suicide



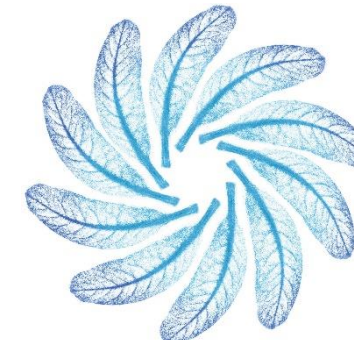
... are LEARNING and
DEVELOPING

This means:

- they are positively engaged with, and progressing and achieving in education
- they develop the social, emotional and communication skills they need as they progress through life
- they have the knowledge, skills and encouragement to achieve their potential and enable choices around further education, volunteering, employment, and entrepreneurship
- they can successfully navigate life's transitions

Indicators:

- Early learning participation
- Regular school attendance
- Literacy, numeracy and science skills
- Social skills
- Self-management skills
- Youth in employment, education or training



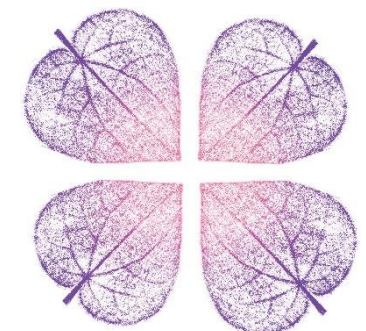
... are ACCEPTED, RESPECTED
and CONNECTED

This means:

- they feel accepted, respected and valued at home, school, in the community and online
- they feel manaakitanga: kindness, respect and care for others
- they live free from racism and discrimination
- they have stable and healthy relationships
- they are connected to their culture, language, beliefs and identity including whakapapa and tūrangawaewae

Indicators:

- Ability to be themselves
- Sense of belonging
- Experience of discrimination
- Experience of bullying
- Social support
- Support for cultural identity
- Languages



... are INVOLVED and
EMPOWERED

This means:

- they contribute positively at home, at school and in their communities
- they exercise kaitiakitanga: care of the land and connection to nature
- they have their voices, perspectives, and opinions listened to and taken into account
- they are supported to exercise increasing autonomy as they age, and to be responsible citizens
- they and their families are supported to make healthy choices around relationships, sexual health, alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs

Indicators:

- Involvement in community
- Representation of youth voice
- Making positive choices
- Criminal offending

The following principles reflect the values New Zealanders have said are important. They guide the development and implementation of the Strategy.

1. Children and young people are taonga.
2. Māori are tangata whenua and the Māori-Crown relationship is foundational.
3. Children and young people's rights need to be respected and upheld.

Essence: Whakatōngia te kākano aroha i roto i ā tātou taitamariki kia puāwai i roto i tō rātou tupuranga aranui oranga. Plant the seed of love in our children and they will blossom, grow and journey towards the greatest pathway of life.

4. All children and young people deserve to live a good life.
5. Wellbeing needs holistic and comprehensive approaches.
6. Children and young people's wellbeing is interwoven with family and whānau wellbeing.

7. Change requires action by all of us.
8. Actions must deliver better life outcomes.
9. Early support is needed.

OVERVIEW: CURRENT PROGRAMME OF ACTION

CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE...



... are LOVED, SAFE and NURTURED

Actions to support parents, caregivers, families and whānau:

- Extend paid parental to 26 weeks
- Expansion of Whānau Ora
- Prototype nurse-led family partnership
- New model of intensive intervention

Actions to prevent harm and abuse:

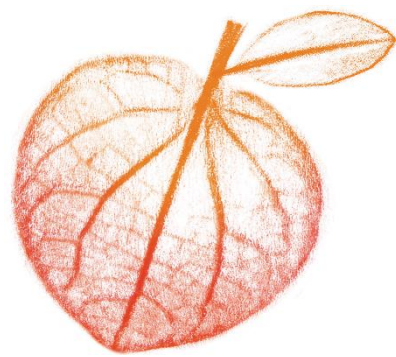
- National strategy and action plan to address family and sexual violence
- Early years violence prevention sites
- Investment in family violence prevention activities, including in diverse communities
- Work programme to prevent online child sexual exploitation and abuse

Actions to support victims and their families and whānau:

- Ensuring safe, consistent and effective responses to family violence
- Improve regional capability to respond to family violence
- Improve access to sexual violence services, eg kaupapa Māori and crisis support services, and improve justice process for victims

Actions to improve the quality of State care:

- Oranga Tamariki Action Plan
- National Care Standards
- Improve outcomes for Māori within the Oranga Tamariki system



... have WHAT they NEED

Actions to improve earnings and employment:

- Increase the minimum wage to \$20 per hour by 2021
- Increase employment support through the Ministry of Social Development
- Support for disabled people and people with health conditions

Actions to create a fairer and more equitable welfare system:

- Continue to implement the Families Package
- Indexation of main benefits to wages
- Repeal s.192 of the Social Security Act
- Overhaul the welfare system

Actions to improve housing quality, affordability, and security:

- Establish 6,400 new public housing places
- Implement Healthy Homes Standards
- Warmer Kiwi Homes programme
- Strengthening Housing First
- Funding for continued provision of transitional housing

Actions to help families with the cost of the essentials:

- Free school lunch prototype
- Initiatives to reduce costs of schooling
- Implement lower-cost primary healthcare



.. are HAPPY and HEALTHY

Actions to improve maternity and early years support:

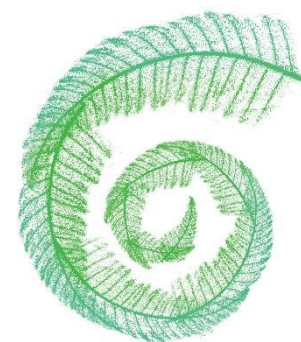
- Redesigning maternity services through the five-year Maternity Whole of System Action Plan
- Review of the Well Child Tamariki Ora programme
- Intensive Parenting Support: Expanding the Pregnancy and Parenting Service

Actions to inspire active, healthy and creative children and young people:

- Healthy Active Learning programme
- Extend and enhance nurses in schools initiative (School Based Health Services)
- Delivery of Strategy for Women and Girls in Sport and Active Recreation
- Creatives in Schools

Actions to increase support for mental wellbeing:

- Expand access and choice of primary mental health and addiction support
- Forensic mental health services for young people
- Suicide prevention strategy
- Promote wellbeing in primary and intermediate schools



... are LEARNING and DEVELOPING

Actions to improve the quality of the education system:

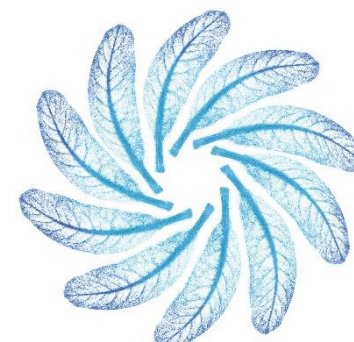
- Develop a statement of National Education and Learning Priorities
- Address learners' needs by improving data quality, availability, timeliness and capability
- Response to review of home-based early childhood education
- Reform of vocational education

Actions to increase equity of educational outcomes:

- Equity Index to provide more equitable resourcing to schools and kura
- Improve learning support: Learning Support Action Plan
- Improve and accelerate education outcomes for Pacific learners
- Fees-Free Tertiary Education and training

Actions to support life transitions:

- New service to support transition out of care or youth justice custody
- Programmes for young people not in education, employment or training



... are ACCEPTED, RESPECTED and CONNECTED

Actions to address racism and discrimination:

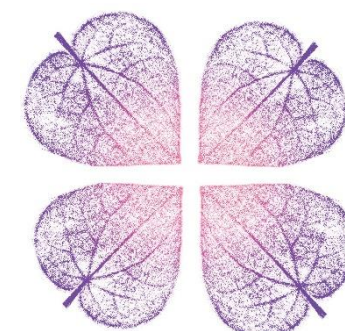
- Government work programme to address racism and discrimination
- Restart Te Kotahitanga: supporting equitable outcomes for Māori learners

Actions to increase sense of belonging and cultural connections:

- Implement Maihi Karauna – The Crown's Strategy for Māori Language Revitalisation
- Te Ahu o Te Reo Māori
- Action Plan for Pacific Aotearoa Lalanga Fou
- Funding to support Pacific realm languages
- Implement initiatives under section 7AA of the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989

Actions to promote positive and respectful peer relationships:

- Initiatives to prevent and respond to bullying in schools
- Expand healthy relationship programmes in secondary schools



... are INVOLVED and EMPOWERED

Actions to increase representation of child and youth voice:

- Youth Action Plan development
- Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey – whataboutme?
- Youth Voice Project

Actions to improve advocacy for children and young people's rights:

- Build public service competency and capability in children's rights
- Implement the Child Impact Assessment Tool across central government
- Strengthen independent oversight of Oranga Tamariki system and children's issues

Actions to encourage positive contributions:

- Investment in community based youth justice facilities
- Paiheretia te Muka Tāngata initiative: Whānau Ora support for Māori in the Corrections system
- Increased services for children and young people with concerning/harmful sexual behaviours

Priorities

1. Reduce child poverty and mitigate the impacts of poverty and socio-economic disadvantage

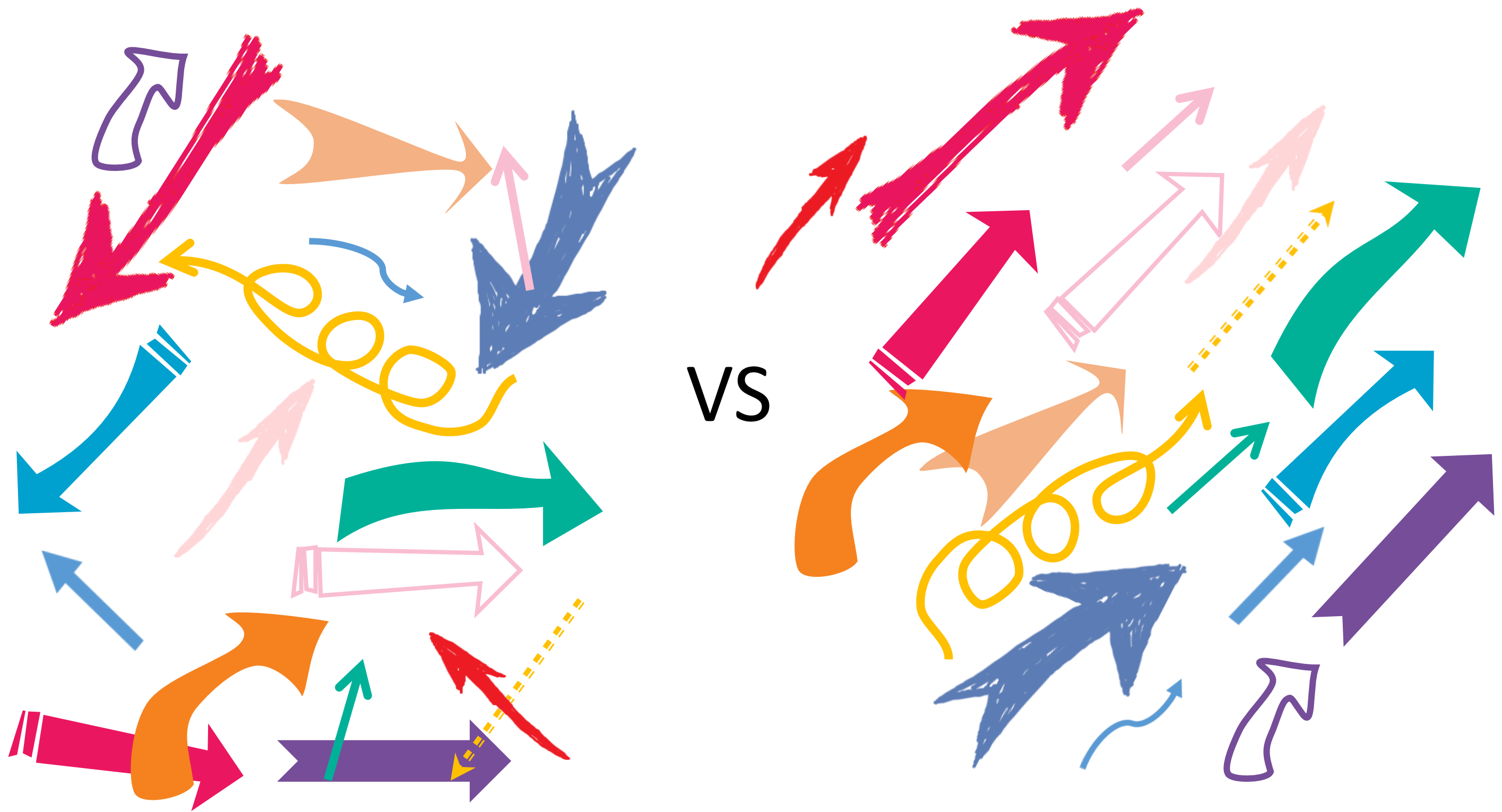
2. Better support those children and young people of interest to Oranga Tamariki and address family and sexual violence

3. Better support children and young people with greater needs, with an initial focus on learning support and mental wellbeing

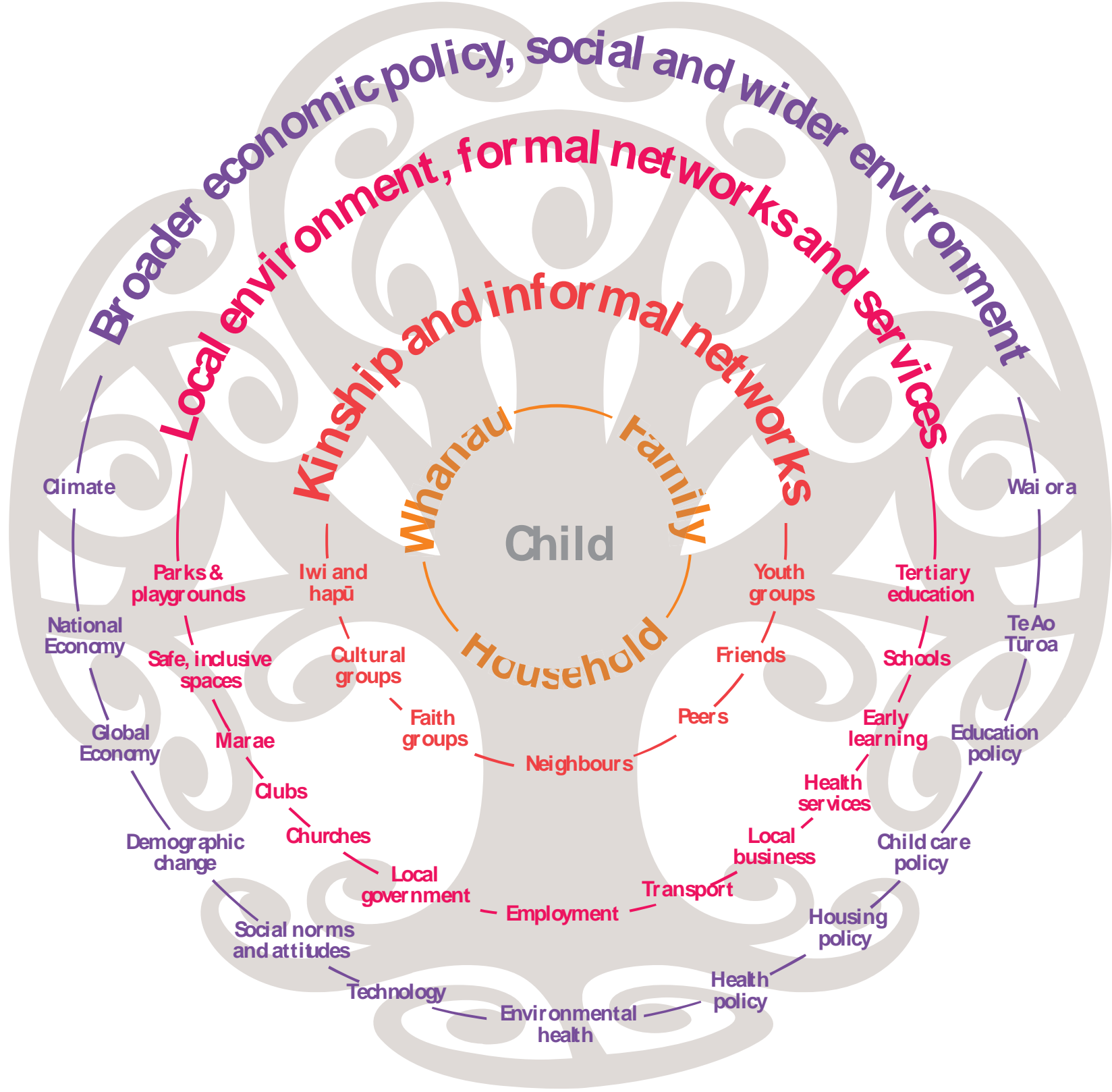


Child and Youth Wellbeing

ALIGNING OUR EFFORTS

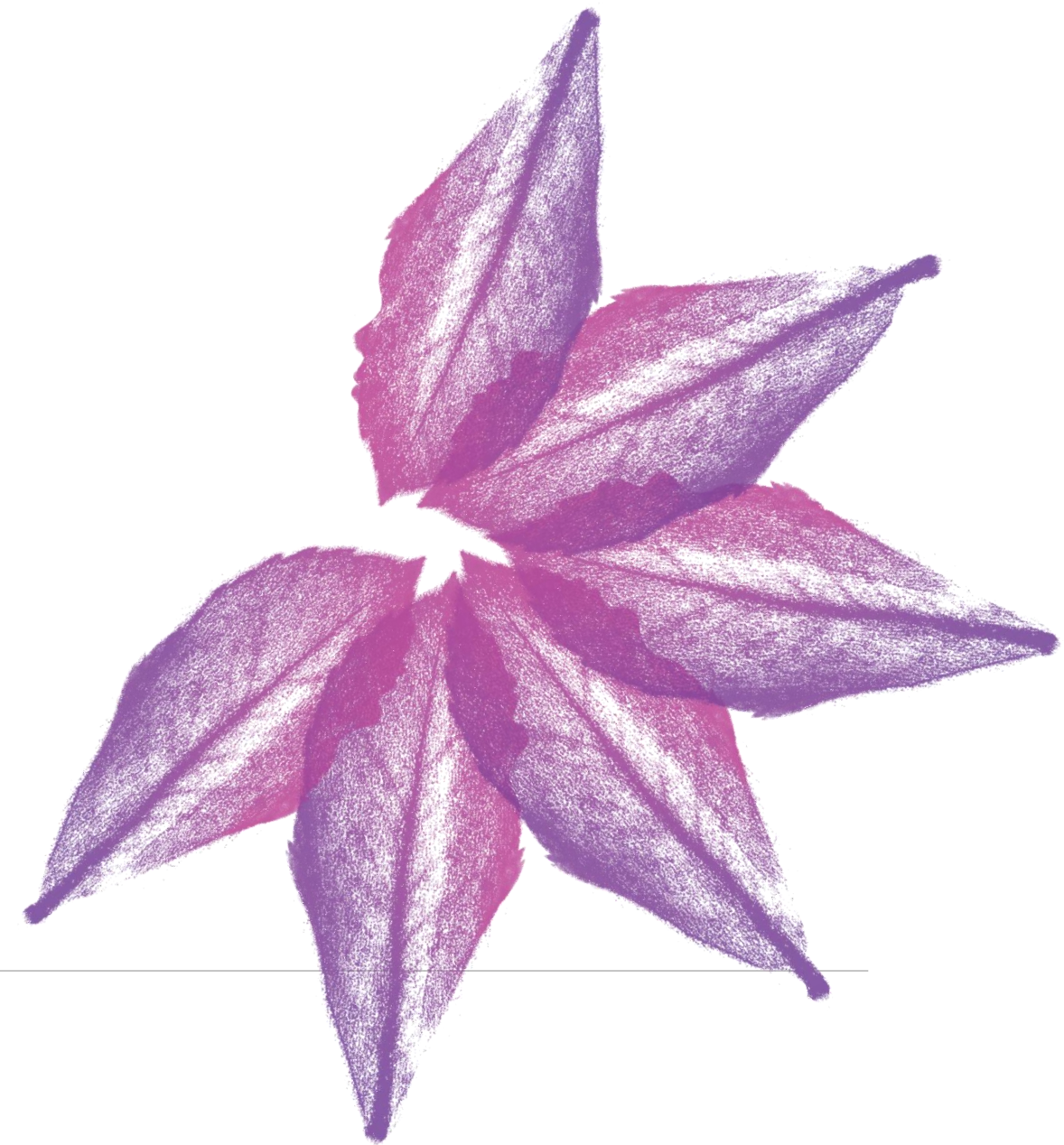


THERE'S A ROLE FOR EVERYONE

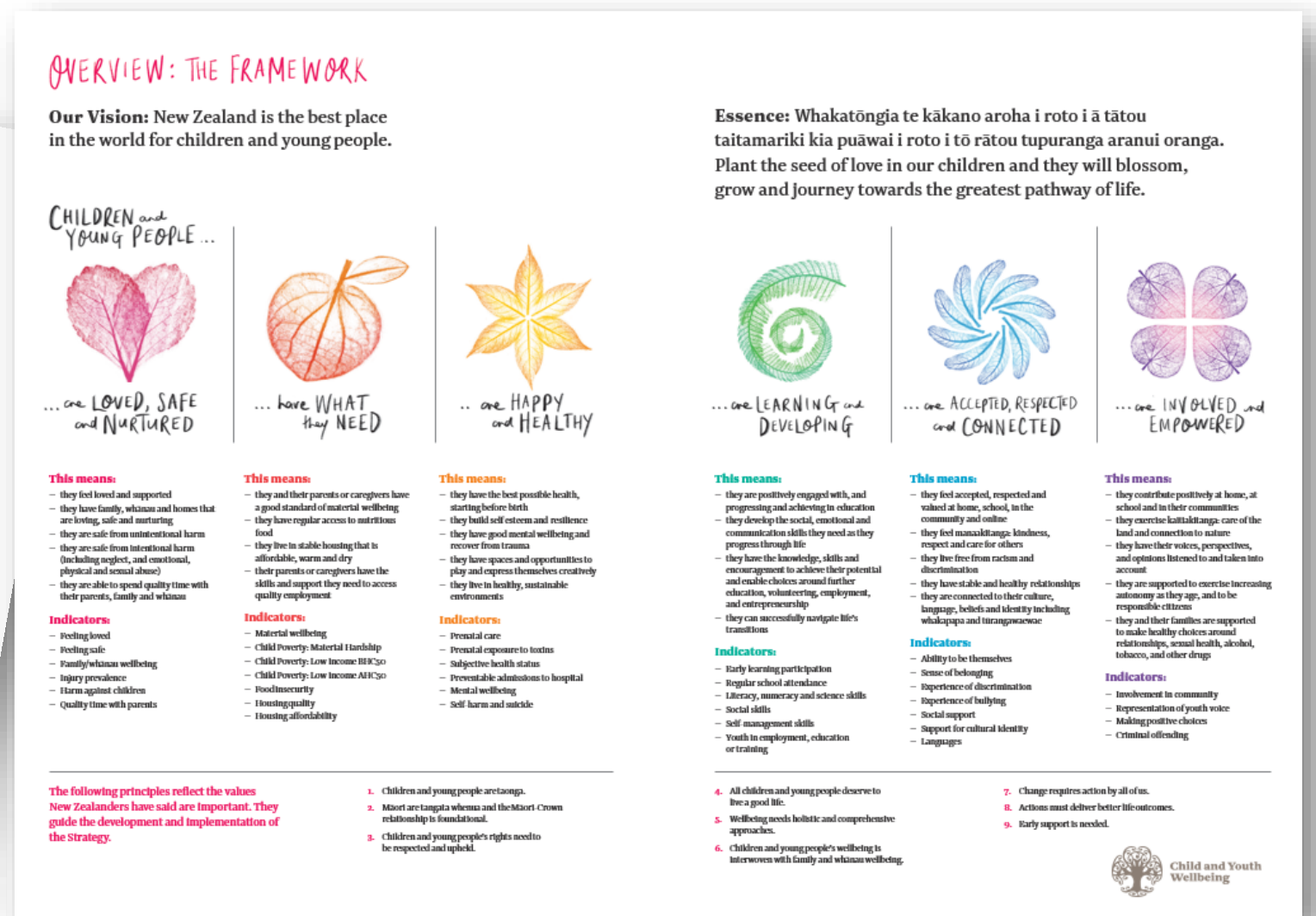


MEASURING PROGRESS

- » 36 indicators and measures
- » Monitor progress of 75 actions
- » Evaluation of individual policies
- » Annual reporting to Parliament
- » Evaluation of the Strategy as a whole.



FURTHER INFORMATION



childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz
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TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE
NEW ZEALAND THE BEST PLACE ^{in the}
WORLD FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG
PEOPLE



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