

# NZHEA Networks of Expertise:

How NZHEA can professionally support teachers of Health Education in primary and secondary schools.

From 1 July 2018 until 31 May 2020 NZHEA has funding from the Ministry of Education to support teachers of health education in primary and secondary schools as part of the Networks of Expertise (NoE) initiative.

We piloted a NoE project in 2017-2018 with HETTANZ and EONZ. For the next two years each of the associations, along with PENZ, have their own funding and different models of peer to peer collaborative support on offer.

You can read more about Networks of Expertise at <http://services.education.govt.nz/pld/networks/> and if you have any questions about the health education support we are proposing, email us at [admin@healtheducation.org.nz](mailto:admin@healtheducation.org.nz)

The three models of support that NZHEA will offer for primary and secondary school teachers are as follows:

## Model 1: Kaiārahi (~leader/adviser)

The highlight of our pilot project was the kaiārahi role filled by Christchurch-based Debbie Jones. Debbie will continue in the kaiārahi role.

For NZHEA purposes our kaiārahi is the 'go-to' person when teachers have questions about curriculum and assessment matters in health education. Debbie has the equivalent of one day a week for this role which she fits around her part time teaching job.

Debbie can be contacted any time at [kaiarahi@healtheducation.org.nz](mailto:kaiarahi@healtheducation.org.nz)

Debbie will reply to questions by email, telephone call, or video conferencing, depending on the nature of the query. Debbie also keeps teachers up-to-date via our NZHEA Facebook page and NZHEA Secondary Facebook group.

## Model 2: Health education specialist facilitator support in-school or at regional cluster meetings

As our aim is to build a sustainable and robust teacher network we would prefer to offer this form of support to regional clusters of schools, or departments in schools. In exceptional cases we can negotiate to work with an individual teacher.

In-school or cluster support for teachers and middle leaders of health education will be provided by **Jenny Robertson** (Northland, Auckland and the upper half of the North Island), **Rachael Dixon** (South Island and lower North Island), as well as **Debbie Jones** and other expert teachers as we get implementation of this form of support underway.

Costs: The NZHEA facilitator time and travel are 'free' to you and funded by the project. Your school would need to cover any teacher release time if this is required, and any venue or catering costs that may be associated with a cluster meeting.

If your school or cluster would like to access the support of a facilitator to work with your department, a regional cluster, or with an individual teacher, please complete the form at:

<https://tinyurl.com/noeapplication>

Any queries about applying for this support or completing the form can be directed to [admin@healtheducation.org.nz](mailto:admin@healtheducation.org.nz) or [kaiarahi@healtheducation.org.nz](mailto:kaiarahi@healtheducation.org.nz)

Note there is no fixed submission date for applications as this is ongoing process. Make sure you allow plenty of time to plan and organise a visit.

## Model 3: Critical friend

We are planning to trial this model with a few interested teachers before we implement it fully in 2019. The 'critical friend' model could be:

- Two expert teachers from different schools who would benefit from deeper critical conversations with a health education peer from another school who can offer a different perspective.
- A teacher newer to health education shadowing an expert teacher in a school other than their own. This visit would also include professional learning conversations reflecting on aspects of the expert practice observed.
- A teacher newer to health education having an expert teacher from a school other than their own observing and giving constructive feedback on aspects of their programme planning and teaching practice.

We propose that the funding for this will be in the form of a teacher release day for the teachers directly involved – half or whole day (noting that a 'whole day' could be 2-3 hours at a time spread over several days). Some minimal support for travel to a nearby town or city may be able to be included.