

Information for Parents

NCEA Level 2

A pass to the future



NCEA Level 2

An important qualification

NCEA Level 2 (or an equivalent qualification) provides young New Zealanders with a minimum level of learning achievement to help them progress to further education, industry training or employment.

Supporting young people to achieve NCEA Level 2

The Ministry of Education has introduced a new initiative, '**Achievement 2013-17**', to assist schools to identify and provide targeted support for students who are not on track to achieve NCEA Level 2 and/or whose study does not have clear pathways into further study, training or employment.

If your child has an interest in a particular job or career, you can use the Vocational Pathways to help them plan their study and career options. Even if they are unsure what they want to do, there are tools to help them choose their study options to achieve NCEA Level 2 with Vocational Pathways. They can map their learning achievement to future work and tertiary study aligned to the Vocational Pathways industries and make an informed decision about their future.



Raising Pasifika student achievement

A scenario

Nila is a Year 12 student who attends her local high school in Auckland. She struggled through NCEA Level 1 but, with additional support and hard work, managed to gain 82 credits and get her Level 1 certificate.

This year though has proven even more difficult for Nila. She has been placed into courses that have a large number of unit standards that the school believes will enable her to get the credits she needs to achieve NCEA Level 2. However, Nila often has to help get her younger siblings to school, which means that she is sometimes late to her morning classes. Her teachers have identified this is why Nila is struggling to keep up and why she is drifting off the required credits she needs to gain NCEA Level 2.

Recently Nila has shown an interest in health sciences after participating in a Careers day. She asked her dean if she could change some of her courses to align with what would be needed if she were to go on to tertiary study in health sciences. Nila's dean recommended she continue with the course that has been developed for her. Knowing that she won't be able to get into health sciences next year if she hasn't done particular achievement standards, Nila talks to her favourite teacher about this and together they raise it with one of the deputy principals.

Not long after, the deputy principal explained to Nila the school had identified her as a student with real potential, but who was not on track to achieve her NCEA Level 2 qualification. The school was going to make some adjustments and a Health Services programme would be created. The deputy principal asked Nila if she would be interested in participating. Nila immediately said yes.

The school contacted her parents and explained the option. Her dean also talked to her parents about the problems Nila had getting to school on time. Since then, the school has engaged a Ministry support person who connected the family to a church support group. This group are helping Nila's parents to organise her younger siblings in the morning, so Nila can get to school on time, more often.

Nila's teachers have reported an improvement in her motivation and engagement, and she has recently achieved an achievement standard.

Nila's chances of getting into tertiary study for health sciences next year is looking up. She is feeling a lot more positive about her new learning pathways and can't wait to get NCEA Level 2, so she can do the tertiary study she really wants to do.

Find out more

To find out more about the **Achievement 2013-17** initiative, visit:

youthguarantee.net.nz/achievement-retention-transitions/

To contact a member of the Achievement 2013-17 programme, look for contact details at: [youthguarantee.net.nz /home-/contact/](http://youthguarantee.net.nz/home-/contact/)

Privacy is protected

As part of delivering effective outcomes for students, the **Achievement 2013-17** initiative obtains relevant information about students. This information helps the Ministry to support schools to deliver the most appropriate type of support and services to the students and their parents, family and whānau.

The Ministry is responsible for the management and storage of all information collected and handles any information in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993. Information collected will only be used for research and statistical purposes.