

OMEP Aotearoa NZ Human Rights Report May-June 2017

UN International Days and NZ Days/Weeks

<http://deaf.org.nz/nzsl> NZ Sign Language Week 8-14 May 2017



15 May [International Day of Families \(A/RES/47/237\)](#)

**** Theme: "Families, education and well-being"

This year's observance focuses on the role of families and family-oriented policies in promoting education and overall well-being of their members. In particular, the Day is to raise awareness of the role of families in promoting early childhood education and lifelong learning opportunities for children and youth.

5 June

[World Environment Day \(A/RES/2994 \(XXVII\)\)](#)

20 June

[World Refugee Day \(A/RES/55/76\)](#)

"Our responses to refugees must be grounded in our shared values of responsibility sharing, non-discrimination, and human rights and in international refugee law, including the principle of non-refoulement." — *UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon*

OMEP members need to be well informed about the Aotearoa NZ Governments policies and strategies for selecting and supporting refugees and asylum seekers.

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/what-we-do/our-strategies-and-projects/supporting-refugees-and-asylum-seekers>

Please check the **NZ Red Cross** for more details regarding the way in which your chapter could support the pathways to settlement of families and young children in your area.

<https://www.redcross.org.nz/what-we-do/in-new-zealand/refugee-programmes/>

OMEP Aotearoa – Our focus for May-June 2017

New Zealand Sign Language-OMEP Constitution commits us to use NZSL at our meetings/hui alongside Te Reo Māori

<http://esolonline.tki.org.nz/ESOL-Online/News/New-Zealand-Sign-Language-Week-from-8-May-2017>

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/special-education-needs/nz-sign-language-help-for-deaf-parents/new-zealand-sign-language-interpreters-for-deaf-parents/>

BUT children/parent in an ECE service cannot get a funded NZSL interpreter? Currently funded NZSL interpreters are only available for specific parent-teacher meetings and events when your child is at school. This may change in the future as more work is done considering how to best support Deaf parents at the times you need to formally meet with your ECE service. If it does, you'll read about it here. **What are you doing about NZSL in your chapter?**

These schools can provide education programmes and specialist services if your child is deaf or hard of hearing. Both have residential schools, specialist ECE services, and resource centres. The schools cater for children aged 2-21.

[Kelston Deaf Education Centre](#), Auckland

Supports students in the top half of the North Island.

[Van Asch Deaf Education Centre](#), Christchurch

Supports students throughout the South Island and the lower half of the North Island.

OMEP Aotearoa Consultation/ Submissions:

Please check out the new online site that offers information, resources, and support for early childhood teachers, educators, and kaiako working with Te Whāriki, the early childhood curriculum in Aotearoa New Zealand. Check the Te Whāriki update implementation workshops, webinars, champions, pedagogical leads and communities of practice- from this site.

<http://tewhariki.tki.org.nz/en/professional-learning-and-development/> see timetable

Education Funding System Review - next steps (Feb 2017) Although this round of engagement has been completed, you can still email funding.review@education.govt.nz if you have any questions about the Review of Education Funding Systems for early childhood education (ECE) and ngā kōhanga reo, and schooling.

OMEP World: <http://www.worldomep.org/>

- Education for Sustainable Development

Glynne Mackey –OMEP Aotearoa –Canterbury and World OMEP ESD representative is encouraging members to try out the *OMEP Environmental Rating Scale for Sustainable Development in Early Childhood. (ERS-SDEC)* <http://worldomep.org/en/esd-scale-for-teachers/>

Office of the Children's Commissioner(OCC)

In response to recent publicity regarding abuse of children in an ECE service, please be sure you have updated and publicised your *Complaints* mechanism-

email enquiries.national@education.govt.nz or Phone +64 4 463 8000

<https://education.govt.nz/ministry-of-education/regional-ministry-contacts/complaints/>

Registered teachers... <https://educationcouncil.org.nz/content/complaint-form-0>

OCC can be useful if you do not get a satisfactory response from a service. **Child Rights Advice Line – Available Monday to Wednesday 9am to 5pm, Thursday 9am to 4pm. For information or advice about children's rights: Phone: 0800 224 453. If you need an interpreter, just ask for language line and the language you want when you call. Email: advice@occ.org.nz (note: emails received on Thursdays and Fridays are unlikely to be read until the following Monday).**

Human Rights Commission _Children's Privacy and Best

Interests <https://www.privacy.org.nz/news-and-publications/reports-to-parliament-and-government/submission-on-the-children-young-persons-and-their-families-oranga-tamariki-legislation-bill/>

UNICEF and Tick4Kid Local chapter representative will have details. It is not enough to raise awareness of poverty inside New Zealand without also providing the way out, with government's role made clear in addressing its social determinants: household incomes, affordable housing, and greater funding for equitable education and health.

Tick for Kids will be confirming their Action Plan at a meeting on 9th May. OMEP members (Nat Exec.) will circulate information to chapters.

Nola Harvey 8/5/2017