

# Sexuality Education in *The New Zealand Curriculum*: Beyond sexual health

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# Giving focus to the conference theme of accountability, the aim of this presentation is to:

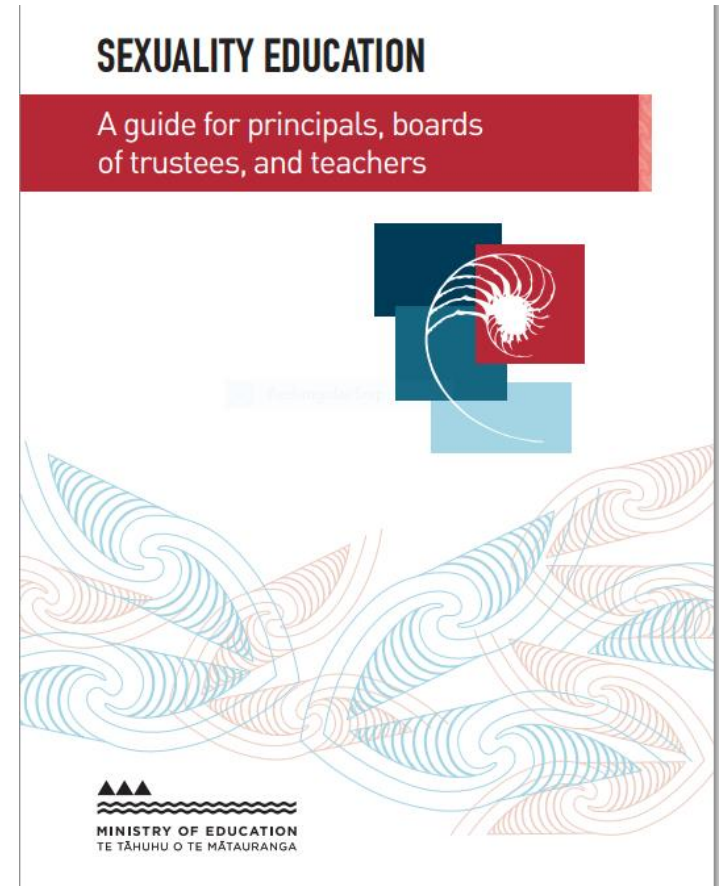
Provide a brief overview of the revised *Sexuality Education: A guide for principals, boards of trustees, and teachers* (Ministry of Education, 2015).

This document describes the education sector accountabilities for sexuality education.



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# ***Sexuality Education: A guide for principals, boards of trustees, and teachers*** (MoE, 2015)





# The purpose of the SEG

The document replaces the previous 2002 guide. It provides guidance for schools on how multiple policies, strategies, and ministry level priorities are brought together, in context of sexuality education. The SEG provides guidance for principals, teachers and BoT's on:

- The place of sexuality education in schools
- Sexuality education in the NZC
- Sexuality education in the wider school
- What schools are required to do
- Consulting with communities



# Education accountabilities

In general include (*among many other things*):

- High quality educational outcomes for all learners in NZ schools
- Delivery of the NZC in conjunction with a host of other education policy and strategy documents
- Teachers who practice in ways that meet EDUCANZ Practicing Teacher Criteria and Code of Ethics

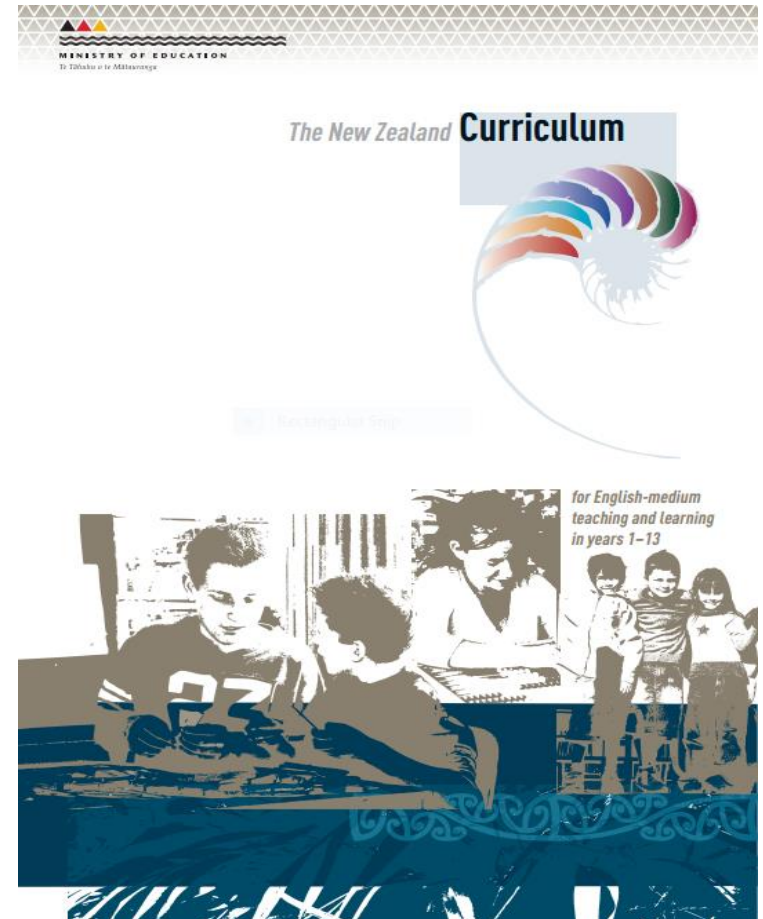
Provision of Health Education programmes which include sexuality education;

- up to the end of year 10, and
- are developed with input from community consultation.



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# *The New Zealand Curriculum* (MoE 2007)





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# Key points about sexuality education in the NZC

Health Education (including sexuality education) knowledge is framed and given shape by the underlying concepts (or 'big ideas') of:

- hauora and wellbeing,
  - the socio-ecological perspective,
  - attitudes and values, and
  - health promotion
- 
- Sexuality education outcomes are measured as learning outcomes (knowledge, skills and understanding).



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# Education Review Office

The last report on the state of sexuality education (specifically) in New Zealand schools was in 2007.

There are two parallel reports:

- The Teaching of Sexuality Education in Years 7-13 – *which makes a number of recommendations*
- The Teaching of Sexuality Education in Years 7-13: Good Practice – *which describe good sexuality education practice*





# How well are students doing in sexuality education ?

## PRIMARY Health and physical Education *overall*

National Monitoring Study of Student Achievement (2013):

- at year 4 almost all students are achieving at expected NZC Level 2,
- at year 8 only 50% of students are achieving at expected NZC Level 4.

## SECONDARY *(Noting Health Education is optional at NCEA level)*

- NCEA Level 1 AS91974 - in 2014 **5782 students** 76.6% achieved  
*(42,980 Year 11 students took NCEA Level 1)*
- NCEA Level 2 AS91239 - in 2014 **3137 students** 73.3% achieved  
*(41,648 Year 12 students took NCEA Level 2)*



# What must schools do?

- Comply with the NAGS and NEGS
- Must provide learning in Health & Physical Education (including sexuality education) up to the end of Year 10 (*as is the case for all learning areas*)
- Must consult with their communities within a 2 year period over the Health Education programme (which includes sexuality education).
- The BoT must adopt a delivery statement for Health Education (used for consultation purposes).

Note: Parents still have the right to withdraw students from aspects of the programme that are 'sexuality education'.



# Wider school considerations for sexuality education

The SEG recommends that senior secondary students have access to non-NCEA assessed sexuality education. [Implications for \(external\) providers ...](#)

Inclusive schools embrace diversity – including sexual and gender diversity; & Schools can support student well-being by enabling access to suitable services. [Implications for wider school policy and practices ...](#)

Student leadership can support positive sexuality. [Implications for school culture and ethos ...](#)



# The future?

In September this year the Ministry of Education signaled a professional learning and development (PLD) focus in 2017 on HPE. This is not sexuality education specific but may(???) include aspects of sexuality education.

- *Additionally, in response to concerns about progress and achievement in the curriculum hauora/health and physical education learning area, there will be a hauora/health and physical education (H&PE) pilot in 2016. Following this we will consider the framing of hauora/H&PE as a national PLD priority starting in 2017.*



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