



Nga Kōhungahunga Manawanui

Job Description

Job Title: Speech Language Therapist

Job Category: Professional

Location: Itinerant (across multiple kindergarten sites)

Agreement: Contract for Services

Position Type: Fixed-term (6-month project)

Date Advertised: October 2025

Remuneration: Competitive (to be negotiated)

Closing Date: 14 November 2025 at 4:00 PM

Start Date: To be negotiated

Contract Manager: Carolyn O'Connor (RTEI)

Applications accepted via email only.

Email: office@ikindergartens.nz

Subject Line: Speech Language Therapist Application

Qualifications and Education Requirements

- A Bachelor's or Master's degree in Speech-Language Therapy (or equivalent) that meets the requirements of the **New Zealand Speech-language Therapists' Association (NZSTA)**.
- Teacher registration is desirable but not essential.

Tēnei Tūranga | About the Role

Inspired Kindergartens (iK) is seeking a qualified and experienced Speech Language Therapist to work across up to six kindergarten centres. This role is a six-month contract for services, with the possibility of extension based on need.

The position was created to address a critical gap in the timeliness of referrals to the Ministry of Education for tamariki requiring speech-language support. The successful contractor will deliver interim programmes and provide advice and practical strategies to educators.

Note: Familiarity with Ministry of Education referral processes in the **Bay of Plenty region** is an advantage.

Ngā Haepapa | Key Responsibilities

As a specialist within Inspired Kindergartens, you will:

- Provide expert knowledge and guidance to teaching teams across multiple kindergartens.
- Collaborate to inform and shape programme decisions that support children's language development.
- Support a high-performance, collaborative working environment.
- Develop and implement practical, innovative solutions to speech and language challenges.
- Use data and professional judgement to provide evidence-based advice and pedagogical practices.
- Coach and mentor teaching staff to build internal capability in speech and language support.

As the Speech Language Therapist, you will also:

- Assess and understand the impact of individual children's speech and language needs in the context of their home, early learning setting, and wider community.
- Collaborate with teaching teams and the Resource Teacher: Early Intervention to support children's language development.
- Recognise and respond to complex communication needs.
- Conduct comprehensive assessments to inform targeted interventions.

Wheako | Experience

To be successful in this role, you will have experience in:

- Working in complex or multi-disciplinary environments.
- Building partnerships to achieve shared goals.
- Applying specialist knowledge in:
 - Typical and atypical child development in early years
 - Speech-language therapy theory and practice
 - Learning and behaviour in young children
 - Multi-lingual development and its impact on communication challenges
- Deep understanding of:
 - **Te Whāriki**
 - Relevant policies, legislation, and community support services
 - The role of identity, language, and culture in child development

Ngā Āheinga | Capabilities

You will demonstrate the ability to:

- Coach and mentor others to enhance outcomes for tamariki.
- Communicate clearly and build strong interpersonal relationships.
- Apply specialist knowledge to assess and design targeted speech and language interventions.
- Translate theory into practical, ECE-appropriate strategies.
- Empower and upskill teachers, other staff and whānau to support children's speech and language needs.
- Work effectively with tamariki and whānau in a culturally responsive, child-centred manner.
- Collaborate with kindergarten teams and coordinate service delivery within specified kindergartens.
- Design and deliver training and model best practices in early intervention.
- Use assessment and analysis to inform planning and implementation at both child and kindergarten levels.