



**youth service**  
ratonga taiohi

# ratonga taiohi pānui

what you need to know

**Rāpare 14 Haratua 2026**  
**Thursday 14 May 2026**



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

Rotuma Language Week

**2026 PACIFIC LANGUAGE WEEKS**



Ministry for  
**Pacific Peoples**

# FAEAG ROTUAM TA

**10 - 16**  
**May**



**FRIDAY 15 MAY**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE



**JOIN THE MOVEMENT:**  
**PINKSHIRTDAY.ORG.NZ**  
**#PINKSHIRTDAYNZ**

# rotuman language week 2026

get involved and celebrate rotuman language week from 10 to 16 may!

**LEARN ROTUMAN  
THIS WEEK**

Noa'ia	<i>Hello</i>
Mijarån lelei	<i>Good morning</i>
Figalelei	<i>Please</i>
Faiåkse'ea	<i>Thank you</i>
'Otou asa le _____	<i>My name is _____</i>

The 2026 theme for Rotuma Language Week is "**Åf'åk, putua, a'pumuå'åk ma rak'åk 'os fäega ma 'os ag fak Rotuma, la se maoen 'e 'os tore**" - Treasure, nurture and teach our Rotuman language and culture so it may live on through generations.

Rotuman is indigenous to Rotuma and is a very unique language. It is also strongly influenced by Polynesian languages such as Samoan and Tongan.

Have a go at pronouncing some Rotuman phrases!



international day against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia



First celebrated in 2005, the day has grown into a truly global community moment. Every year on 17 May, international day against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia (idahobit) is celebrated with initiatives, events, and campaigns in solidarity with LGBTQIA+ people.

If you haven't already, go complete our rainbow diversity eLearning module on the Youth Service provider site. It aims to give an oversight of working alongside diverse groups of people.



Click here to complete the module:

[Rainbow Diversity | youth provider website](#)



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# youth service experience survey

we use the survey to measure how satisfied taiohi are with the service

We want to hear what taiohi think about Youth Service so that we can celebrate successes and find any problems that need to be resolved.

Please reach out to your young people and encourage them to fill in the survey to give feedback. Their feedback is really helpful for improving our service.

After filling out the survey, taiohi will go into the draw to win a \$50 prezzy card!

**Link to survey:**

<https://www.youthservice.govt.nz/feedback>



# your stories: whanganui youth service

check out a story of a taiohi who recently exited into employment

16-year-old Destiny has faced significant challenges in her early life due to the environment she was raised in and exposed to. By the age of 14, she left school following her parents' separation. Due to her parent's struggles with drug addiction, she had to move in with her grandmother – who thankfully was able to provide her with a stable home.

Destiny was determined to become independent and to exit Youth Service as soon as possible. She actively sought employment opportunities over the holiday period, and this search paid off as she secured a full-time role as a cleaner at a Kōhanga Reo. This opportunity supports her long-term goal of becoming a qualified ECE teacher, as her employer committed to supporting her to gain work experience.

From the get-go, Destiny showed strong motivation and a clear focus to transition into full-time employment. She successfully achieved this goal and exited Youth Service after receiving Youth Payment for just over three months.

We love to hear and share your stories!  
Send them to us at  
[national\\_youthservice@msd.govt.nz](mailto:national_youthservice@msd.govt.nz)



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# drop-in recap: programme fund

missed the drop-in this week or need a refresher? you are in the right place

- Programme fund is a flexible payment to help taiohi overcome barriers to their goals.
- The payment can be applied for by our NEET taiohi as well, you do not need to be receiving financial assistance.
- It enables Youth Service to fund activities or supports that align with a young person's Youth Service plan when other options aren't available
- Young people can get up to \$500.00 (excluding gst) in a 52-week period – this starts from the first approved application.

## tips, tricks, and planning

- Clear notes are important and relating back to the young person's plan.
- Explain why were other funding avenues rules out.
- You can apply to use it to fund something for individual taiohi or pool it to pay for group activities (the average cost will need to be recorded against each young person in ART).
- What are the potential risks of not making this payment? Without it will they not be able to reach one of their goals?

the fund can be used for....



Wellbeing

Education



Employment



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# upcoming drop-in sessions



drop-in to meet other youth coaches and learn about youth service

## yssu reviews

**Tuesday 19 May, 10am**

Our YSSU team will be talking about the most common review tasks they process, as well as themes and trends they have noticed. They'll also be sharing tips and tricks to help youth coaches for when they send these tasks through!

[Join the Teams meeting](#)

## family harm – love better

**Tuesday 26 May, 10am**

Come join us to learn about Love Better, a youth campaign initiative set up with purpose of equipping youth with the knowledge, tools and capability to navigate and stop harm in relationships.

[Join the Teams meeting](#)

## induction for new coaches

**Wednesday 3 June, 10am**

In this drop-in session we'll cover:

- how legislation and policy determines how Youth Service operates
- the people and teams that help deliver Youth Service
- where to find information to help you in your role.

[Join the Teams meeting](#)

## full drop-in schedule

[Drop-in sessions | Youth Service providers](#)



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# realising the dreams and aspirations of youth

tau awhitia te taiohi, ka puta ki te wheiao

[providers.youthservice.govt.nz](http://providers.youthservice.govt.nz)

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