



Announcement of financial education in the curriculum

Priority 1: Establishing a knowledge-rich curriculum grounded in the science of learning

30 April 2025

The Minister of Education today announced financial education is part of the updated curriculum. The Ministry is working in partnership with the Retirement Commission and other financial education providers.

What is financial education and why it's important

Financial education is critical for ensuring all students will be supported to become active informed citizens so they are prepared for their financial future, manage their finances effectively, and contribute to New Zealand's economy.

Financial education will be embedded as a core element of the updated social sciences and Te Ao Māori curriculum for Year 1-10 students, set to be introduced nationwide from 2026.

We have also already strengthened financial education in the mathematics and statistics learning area and Pāngarau wāhanga ako, where it is called out as key learning strand.

The new social sciences and Te Ao Māori curriculum will cover key financial skills, starting with topics such as having a first bank account, earning, spending and saving, and budgeting. Senior students will gain the knowledge needed to understand more complex concepts, including generating revenue, managing debt, and financial decision-making. This provides a solid foundation for future learning, including specialisation in business and economics.

Collaboration with the Retirement Commission and experts

A new partnership between the Ministry of Education and the Retirement Commission will collaborate with financial education providers and map their offerings against the updated curriculum. This will ensure schools and kura have access to quality curriculum-aligned resources across all year levels.

To support the rollout of financial education in the new curriculum, a range of tools and resources, developed with industry experts, banks, and charitable trusts, will be available to schools, ensuring they can successfully deliver the curriculum.

How will schools benefit?

Schools will benefit by:

- ✓ A clear and explicit curriculum that sets out key financial education learning in a year-by-year sequence.
- ✓ Being able to choose off-the-shelf resources to support their financial education teaching programme and meet their students' needs.
- ✓ Having access to a map of tools and resources that are readily available for you to use to support your teaching programmes. Resources will be clear about the curriculum connections and learning outcomes for each age level.
- ✓ Having confidence that these resources are high quality, based on evidence of best teaching practice, and aligned to the curriculum.

What's next?

A draft of the updated social sciences and Te Ao Māori curriculum will be available in Term 4, 2025 for feedback. The updated curriculum areas are planned to be gazetted in 2026 and required for use from 2027.

The map of resources and access to them will be available through Tāhūrangi alongside the release of the updated curriculum areas.



**Te Tāhuhu o
te Mātauranga**
Ministry of Education



Te Poutāhū
Curriculum Centre



**Te Kāwanatanga
o Aotearoa**
New Zealand Government