

THE YEAR SO FAR

Speech New Zealand was built on the community and commitment of dedicated teachers throughout Aotearoa. As we celebrate our 60th, we recognise the importance of connection. Our in-person accreditation was a chance to train and re-establish our purpose as a community. Friends shared stories as we celebrated the support and dedication of our retiring examiners Melda Townsley and Pam Logan. Keep a look out for some of these stories on our website soon!

In the days prior, our national office and trustees discussed Speech NZ's responsibilities to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and cultural capability. This workshop, led by the courageous Tohu Ora, was inspiring, and challenging, and directly feeds into our current work on strategic planning.

With the support of Charitable Solutions Ltd and Carl Sunderland, the board of trustees are working on our 2025-2027 strategy and the future vision we have for Speech New Zealand. We are excited to share this with you later in the year.

Rātā Foundation and Canterbury English Speakers Union Trust have partnered with Speech NZ to fully fund our oral communication programme at Pareawa Banks Avenue School, Christchurch. We look forward to sharing impact stories from the students and growing our community programmes throughout the motu.

Jaime Winter, Exam Administrator, left in February with Kim Penman stepping into the role. As we build to our busier time of the year, Amy Atkins has returned to join the Exam Admin Team and Stephen Holdaway is continuing to improve functionality of National Dashboard in preparation to handover after almost 14 years supporting Speech NZ!

I am grateful to my national office team for their continued commitment to improve and streamline our work whilst supporting one another and ensuring the best outcomes for our students and connections to our communities.

It seems only fitting we reflect on 60 years with one eye on the horizon. What an exciting time for our history as Speech New Zealand.



Titiro whakamuri, kōkiri whakamua

Look back and reflect so you can move forward



HELENA COULTON
Executive Manager

AUGUST 2024

FAREWELLING VALUED STAFF MEMBERS



JAMIE WINTER

Earlier this year Jamie left Speech New Zealand to work on her husband's business. Jamie supported tour delivery, was always a smiling and positive presence in the workplace and a valued member of our team.

SAME STAFF NEW ROLE



KIM PENMAN

Our very own Kim Penman stepped into the role of Exam Administrator. Having been part of Speech New Zealand for a number of years, Kim's knowledge and passion to grow our community has seen her shine in this role and we are very lucky to have her.

WELCOMING BACK A FAMILIAR FACE



AMY ATKINS

Amy returns to Speech New Zealand in August to help us throughout our busiest period! As Exam Administrator, Amy will work alongside Kim and Claire to ensure smooth operations for our nationwide tours.

No stranger to the Speech New Zealand whānau, Amy has worked previously with us as Transition Administrator and Tour Administrator.

We are very lucky to have Amy back with us until the end of the year!

2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Jude Francis Terry, Southland
Tess Mitchell, Wellington
Tyler Paul, Bay of Plenty
Zoë Rea, Canterbury
William Haywood, Tasman/Nelson
Cerisa Keija Gu, Auckland
Julia Yujin Sung, North Shore
Leo Zhou, North Shore
Bella Zhang, Auckland
Nicole Mnyanyi, Hawke's Bay
Zlata Shapran, Taranaki/ Whanganui
Anusha Sharma, Rotorua
Lauren Smith, Rotorua
Oliver Searancke, Rotorua
Viggo Lasse, Rotorua
Niksha Pardel, Rotorua
Ranithu Rodrigo, Rotorua
Kezia Pestell, Timaru/Oamaru

AUGUST 2024

WELCOME TO THE BOARD



DINIE BEVERS

Gijsberdina Wilhelmina Adriana, better known as Dinie, came from a theatrical family and began her career onstage as a tree.

She is a qualified vet nurse and worked in animal care for several years. However when she moved to New Zealand, she decided to pursue a career as a Speech & Drama teacher through Speech New Zealand.

She works in a small country school in South Canterbury and as an examiner. She has been a part of the Speech NZ family for many years and it is wonderful to have her knowledge and experience on our board.



HARRIET WILLIS

Harriet studied Speech and Drama throughout high school and holds an Advanced Associate Diploma in Teaching, Speech Communication and Rhetoric. Since graduating from Victoria University, she has worked as a family and criminal defence lawyer, volunteers at her local Community Law Centre and is on the Wellington Family Courts' Association Committee.

She enjoys rock climbing, tramping, travel and trying to keep her houseplants alive. She also volunteers for the children's branch of Forest and Bird, Kiwi Conservation Club and speaks French and German.



RAVINA PATEL

Fijian born, Ravina moved to New Zealand at a young age and did ESOL in primary school which improved her written and verbal communications.

For the past seven years, she has practiced as an Optometrist, fostering a deep understanding of healthcare and patient care. She began her career in governance in 2023, after graduating with an MBA from the University of Waikato.

In her spare time, she enjoys going to the gym and boxing, and, recently discovered a love for skiing. She also enjoys spending time with family, traveling and trying new cuisines.

FAREWELLS

This year we said farewell to board member Elizabeth Drayton and we wish her all the best on her future endeavours.

We also said goodbye to two long-standing members of the Speech New Zealand family; Pam Logan and Melda Townsley. We were lucky enough to say a proper goodbye to both in Wellington at the Speech NZ examiners gathering in January this year, with farewell speeches and memories shared, followed by a morning tea.

AUGUST 2024



CULTURAL CAPABILITY

We continued our cultural capability journey in January when National Office and our trustees gathered in Wellington | *Te Whanganui-a-Tara* to participate in a two day cultural capability workshop hosted by the incredible Mischellé Tohu and Manawanui Mihaere from Tohu Ora.

It was a great privilege to deepen our understanding of Te Ao Māori, reflect on company values and explore how we can support all communities in *Aotearoa* New Zealand.

EXAMINERS DAY

Also in January, in Wellington, we hosted an in-person strategy day for SNZ examiners for the first time in five years!

The day had four key objectives; to review examination processes, to ensure standardisation across examinations, to learn more about our exciting new syllabi for 2024 and, most importantly, to bring everyone together to connect!

Farewelling Melda and Pam, January 2024

STRATEGY DAY

Carl Sutherland from Charitable Solutions Ltd is working alongside National Office and our trustees year to help develop a three-year, extensive strategy plan. In July, the trustees and national office came together with Carl to workshop areas of growth and change within the organisation to ensure our continued success as the leading provider of oral communication and assessments in *Aotearoa* New Zealand.

OUR WEBSITE GETS A MAKEOVER

No doubt you will have noticed our very fancy new website. Not only do we love the way it looks, it is accessible, user-friendly and well organised, thanks to Ash Cockayne of Dozma Design. Ash has offered continued support as we get used to the new backend and platform, Rocketspark.



AUGUST 2024

REVISED SYLLABI

We are delighted to have launched two revised syllabi this year; Oral Communication and Language Literacy Syllabus | *Aromatawai-ā-waha me te Marautanga Reo* and English Language Learners.

Revised to suit our changing education system and learning needs in schools, the Oral Communication and Language Literacy Syllabus | *Aromatawai-ā-waha me te Marautanga Reo* is designed as an accessible classroom resource to support teachers.

The syllabus focuses on integrating local stories and language to reflect and honour our diverse nation whilst focusing on key competencies of:

- Using language symbols and text
- Relating to others
- Creative and critical thinking skills
- Participating and communicating
- Managing self

We would like to extend a special thanks to Jessica Rees for all her work on revising this syllabus and offering support for teachers transitioning to this new framework.

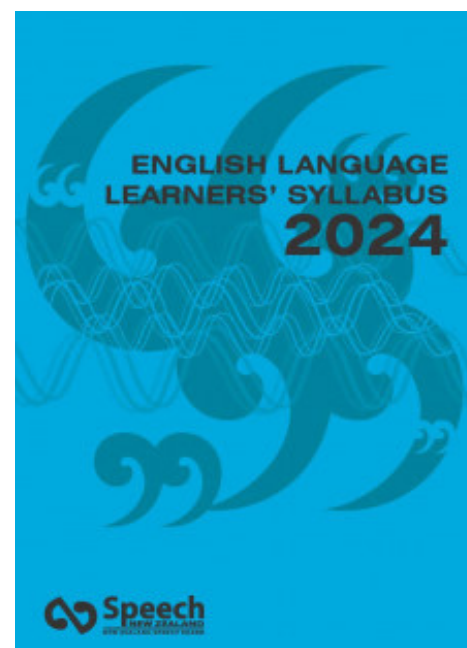
It is designed for year 1-8 students, however we do have a pilot programme available for senior students. To request this pilot programme, please email: info@speechnz.co.nz

The English Language Learners' Syllabus is designed for students who have English as an additional language. It prepares students to participate in various social situations, through role-play, impromptu conversations, imagined everyday situations and prepared formal speeches.

Aligned with the Ministry of Education's | *Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga* | English Language Learning Progressions (ELLP), this syllabus supports the development of three key competencies:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading

We would like to thank Dinie Bevers and Sherilyn Hellier for spearheading the revision of this syllabus.



AUGUST 2024

FUNDING OPENS DOORS

We are thrilled to expand our reach and offer a fully funded ten-week oral language literacy programme for 100+ students in years 5 and 6 at Pareawa Banks Avenue School, Christchurch | Ōtautahi running throughout term three.

Thanks to the Rātā Foundation and Canterbury English Speaking Union Trust, Speech New Zealand is able to deliver the newly revised Oral Communication and Language Literacy Syllabus | Aromatawai-ā-waha me te Marautanga Reo to a school that would not have been able to run the programme otherwise.

Speech New Zealand appointed teacher, Niamh Hallissey is spearheading the programme. Niamh has been a supervisor with Speech New Zealand since 2022 and is the itinerant speech and drama teacher at St Margaret's College. Niamh is also a student at the University of Canterbury, studying for a Bachelor of Speech and Language Pathology. She has a wealth of experience working with young people and extensively volunteers in her community and for charitable organisations.

School Principal Jan Thompson said of the initiative,

“We are really excited to have Speech NZ coming in to work with our Year 5 and 6 students to develop their oral language and communication skills. This in-class program will complement our current literacy teaching, which includes SHARP reading, The Code and Storytelling.

It has been fantastic that the program facilitators have been able to incorporate our school HEART values into their program, along with our current foci, such as narrative writing, visual art, and social skills.

Executive Manager of Speech New Zealand, Helena Coulton spoke to the power of this programme and the importance of building life-long communication skills for our young people.

“By equipping these tamariki with oral communication skills, we are empowering them to be a part of our nation's voice. We, at Speech New Zealand, are extremely grateful for the support from Rātā Foundation and Canterbury English Speakers Union Trust to ensure equitable access for the Canterbury community.

Expanding our reach and breaking down barriers, including financial, so that the wider community can better access Speech New Zealand programmes, is a key organisational goal and we hope this programme is the first of many for schools and community groups across the country.



Niamh Hallissey and Pareawa Banks Avenue students

AUGUST 2024

RACE UNITY AWARDS

The Race Unity Speech Awards held its annual competition in May of this year. The awards ask rangatahi to examine racism in their society and share their thoughts on how we can become a more inclusive and unified society.

The theme for this year was *Te Taura Tangata* | The Rope of Unity, symbolising the idea that when people come together from different backgrounds, they form a stronger, more resilient bond.

Speech New Zealand is proud to support the Race Unity Speech Awards and this year our *Tohu Auahatanga* | Speech New Zealand Award for Delivery went to the 2024 Race Unity Speech Awards National Champion Jessica Tupa'i from Wellington's St Mary's College.

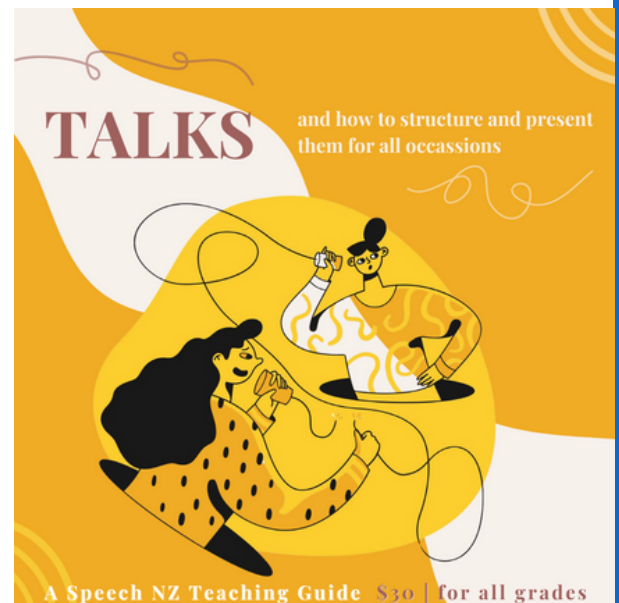
We are so grateful to Dr Margriet Theron ONZM for her generous donation towards the Speech New Zealand award and for Meredith Caisley in presenting it to Jessica.

You can watch Jessica's speech [here](#).

NEW RESOURCES

This year we continue to roll out extensive resources to support teachers in their practice. Each resource is designed to spark inspiration for new lesson plans and are packed with information, definitions, games, provocations and templates for talks.

You can view sample pages from our resources and purchase via our [website](#).



AUGUST 2024

CHAIRPERSON'S SIGN OFF

Speech New Zealand has had a very busy and productive year so far. You will be very proud of our National Office staff when you read what has been achieved. Our thanks to Helena for leading her team with such expertise and thank you to the staff for their solid teamwork.

The Deirdre Sneddon scholarship recipients for 2024, Nina Burchett, Rebecca Reed, Georgia Lassen and Emma Barnett have returned from their workshops in England and the United States of America. You will be able to hear about what they have learned in our upcoming zoom presentations from EPC.

Jill Hagen, one of our teachers and Jenny Stratford, a retired exam supervisor in Lower Hutt, experienced a very sad loss recently when their mother, Phyllis Joyce Parkes, died. She was 99 years old and had been living with Jill for a few years. They had hoped she would reach her 100th birthday.

Last week Sandra Bartlam and I examined the Oral Communication and Language Literacy Syllabus | *Aromatawai-ā-waha me te Marautanga Reo* at Huntley School in Marton. There were 8 days of examinations in all, years 6-8. The school is finding the syllabus fits in well with their own oral communication programme. The top class of year 8 sat the Mā / White exam which is in the pilot syllabus, and all were well prepared. It was heartening to see the syllabus being used so successfully.

All the best for the preparation of your students for the end of year assessments. It will be a very busy but rewarding time for you all as you watch your students grow in confidence and develop communication skills.



PAULINE PREDNERGAST
Chairperson Speech NZ

**Nā tō rourou, nā taku
rourou ka ora ai te iwi**

*With your food basket and my
food basket the people will thrive*

PARTNERSHIP

*As New Zealanders, we value
relationships that encourage
and respect diversity in all
forms*

CREDIBILITY

*As educators, we strive to
deliver the best outcomes for
all our stakeholders*

EMPOWERMENT

*As an organisation, we are
committed to supporting the
growth and development of
all stakeholders*



AUGUST 2024

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Our wonderful EPC community continues to grow in 2024!

Our workshops have been well received and we have been delighted to welcome many non-EPC members along. Our reach is expanding across the country.

Remember, EPC members and subscribers receive discounts for workshop. All workshops are recorded so if you are unable to attend, you can still purchase a ticket and watch at your own convenience.

WORKSHOPS SO FAR



TEACHING RESOURCES
A MEETING SPACE FOR EDUCATORS

 **TUE 26 MAR | 7:00pm**

Gather with a community of educators to network, share resources, techniques, activities and approaches beneficial in your practice. Bring a hot drink, your burning questions and resources you love, and connect with other like-minded individuals!

 **ONLINE**  **EPC.ORG.NZ**





KEEP SPEAKING UP
WITH JOSEPH BOON

Joseph Boon discusses the challenges progressive disability has on communication, how speech therapy can help and the role adaptive technology can play in strengthening and maintaining communication.

WED 26 JUNE
7.30PM - 8.30PM
ONLINE
WWW.EPC.ORG.NZ





EXPLORING LIGHTING DESIGN
WITH NATHAN MCKENDRY

TUE 13 AUG
7.30PM - 8.30PM
ONLINE
WWW.EPC.ORG.NZ



COMING UP



DAME MIRANDA HARCOUT DNZM:
CONNECT, DEVELOP AND REVEAL CHARACTER

 **MON 6 MAY | 7:00pm**

 **ONLINE**





Deirdre Snedden scholarships recipients: WHAT I LEARNT

NINA BURCHETT

WED 4 SEP
7.30PM - 8.30PM
ONLINE WWW.EPC.ORG.NZ

GEORGIA LASSEN



AUGUST 2024



CLOWNING
WITH AMY ATKINS

COME PLAY!

WED 16 OCT
7.30PM - 8.30PM
ONLINE

Booking: epc.org.nz

A workshop for all clowns - experienced, new or nervous clowns. Refresh your skills, learn what it's all about and how to teach it!



Let's Thrive in 2025

Sole Trader Best Practices

- Demystify taxes
- Explore online accounting tools
- Marketing basics for small businesses
- Sole trader best practice for 2025

TUE 26 NOV 7.30PM - 8.30PM ONLINE

WWW.EPC.ORG.NZ

We value your feedback regarding EPC workshops. If you loved a workshop or would like to suggest a workshop, please get in touch: info@epc.org.nz

TEACHER COACHING PROGRAMME

Grow and develop successful business and teaching practices - no matter where you are in your career. The Teacher Coaching Programme is not just for new and emerging teachers, it's for established teachers look to upskill in a new area or a refresher in business practices.

"I was wanting to set myself up as a teacher of speech and drama, and was finding it difficult to figure out the steps needed to get started. The programme covered the topics that I needed to build my confidence."

-Janet

Teaching and learning systems - setting teaching plans, resources and professional ethics

Speech NZ syllabus module - a refresh of our syllabi and the learning criteria

Higher education - a module focused on teaching our diploma and above grades

Business plan - setting clear strategy and planning your company growth

Finances - introduction to running your own business financials

Marketing basics - an introduction to building a marketing strategy and brand including templates

IT systems - an introduction to IT Google Drive, Apps, Adobe and copyright

Website - Design and build a basic website for your business

"Really constructive, they've all been highly experienced teachers and business owners. All the experience and knowledge will not only help me form my business but help with the teaching I'm doing at the moment."

-Rebecca