



# EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE TE TARI AROTAKE MATAURANGA

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### **ERO report: *Including Students with High Needs***

“Schools have a responsibility to cater for all students, including those with high needs,” says Dr Graham Stoop, the Chief Review Officer.

“Good teachers know how to include all students, and school principals know that teachers who are well-supported and well-prepared will be able to give all the children in their classes an appropriate education.”

In a newly released study the Education Review Office has found that committed leadership and a welcoming and encouraging school culture were characteristics of schools that were successful in including students with high needs. Flexibility, good organisation and relevant professional development for teachers were also important.

ERO evaluated inclusiveness in significant aspects of each school’s academic, extra-curricular and social activities. ERO found half of the schools in the study were able to show that that they were inclusive for students with high needs. A further 30 percent had some inclusive practices, while 20 percent could demonstrate very few.

In the report, *Including Students with High Needs*, ERO recommends that professional learning and development in this area be school-wide rather than solely for individual teachers, so the whole school can work towards becoming more inclusive.

Ends

This report is on ERO’s website at:

<http://www.ero.govt.nz/National-Reports/Including-Students-with-High-Needs-June-2010>

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