

LEAD SCHOOL TRANSITION SERVICE

flexible pathways

whakaneke nga ara hikoi

**Allenvale School
Lead School
Christchurch**

ASSID Conference Brisbane 2010

**Colin Gladstone Manager Lead School Transition Service
Graeme Daniel Principal Allenvale School**

LEAD SCHOOL TRANSITION SERVICE

**Transition services for secondary age
disabled students**

(ORRS and non ORRS)

9 participating schools within Christchurch

Lead School Model – Flexible Pathways

A holistic view of transition

ORIGINS OF THE SERVICE

- ✦ The Wayne Francis Charitable Trust and Creative Solutions Project sought to resolve systemic barriers in the transition of disabled students to adulthood.
 - ✦ from this
- ✦ The Ministry of Education agreed to trial a pilot project using a lead school model that seeks to build capacity in schools and promotes a collaborative, partnership approach.
- ✦ Schools are best placed to lead this process of SOCIAL CHANGE.

A RESPONSE TO:

- ✘ Transition for disabled students has been an area of concern both locally and nationally in NZ.
- ✘ Poor post school outcomes – a lack of pathways.
- ✘ A lack of structure or framework to the transition process.
- ✘ Parents and young people lacking the right information at the right time and who to go to.

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The vision:

- ✘ Students and parents are at the centre of the transition process.
- ✘ To improve post school outcomes for disabled students – Flexible Pathways.
- ✘ To develop a consistent transition process across New Zealand.
- ✘ To develop effective partnerships with key stakeholders
- ✘ To establish multi agency protocols

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× Our role:

- × The role of LST is to build capacity within schools to better support disabled students both ORRS and non ORRS.

× The Service provides:

- + Support and Guidance
- + Comprehensive Transition Planning Process – Toolkit
- + Professional Development
- + Critical intervention
- + Developing partnerships with stakeholders
- + Robust data to inform future provision

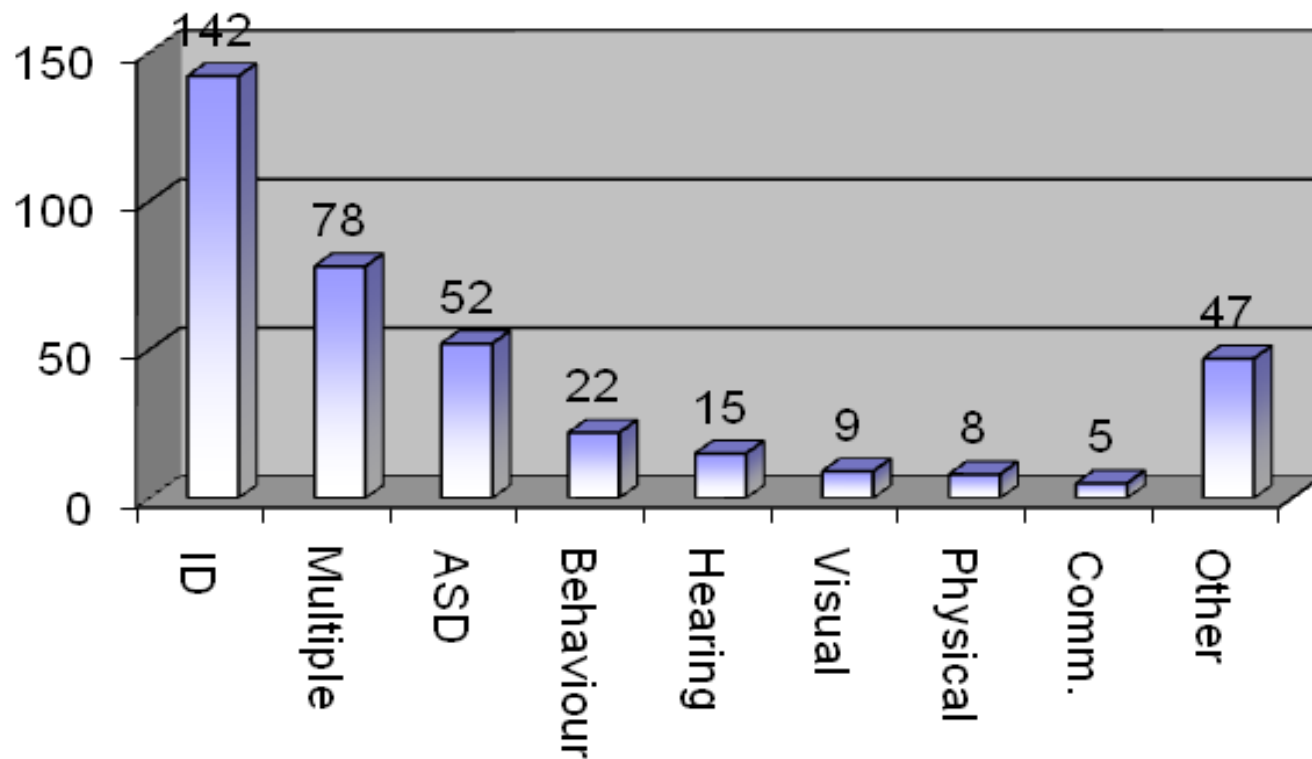
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Where to start:

- ✘ Baseline Survey conducted through face to face interviews with key professionals in the participating schools.
- ✘ To build a clear picture of what was going on around transition in schools
 - ✘ Student numbers
 - ✘ School culture
 - ✘ Organisation and leadership
 - ✘ Resourcing

Student numbers identified in need of considerable support during their transition

Students Categorised by Impairment



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- ✦ Lead School Transition has produced a comprehensive Transition Toolkit for schools which outlines the important stages of transition, provides planning documentation and a range of resources for teachers, young people and their families.
- ✦ This is being supported with a robust professional development programme for teachers, staff and parents.
- ✦ LST is underpinned by the 10 Point Best Practice Framework for Transition of Disabled Students (Established by Wayne Francis Trust / Creative Solutions in 2008)

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1. Transition starts to occur no later than the age of 14 years and is part of a specific transition planning process that aims to develop academic potential as well as functional transition skills.
2. The process is driven by the student/whanau and the student is actively engaged in determining/implementing their future goals.
3. Partnerships between the school and community supports are developed at least 2 years before the young person leaves school.

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4. The transition programme is integrated within the structure of general education rather than as a separate and parallel programme.
5. The process identifies and overcomes barriers to the disabled student's learning and support.
6. The students/whanau are offered information and support that opens the door to a wider range of inclusive community based options.

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7. A clear distinction is made between the transition needs of the young person and those of their family.
8. Functional transition skills are in the curriculum and practised at home.
9. Those at school after 18 years old receive services in adult settings.
10. The outcomes of the transition planning process are regularly evaluated.

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Student Voice

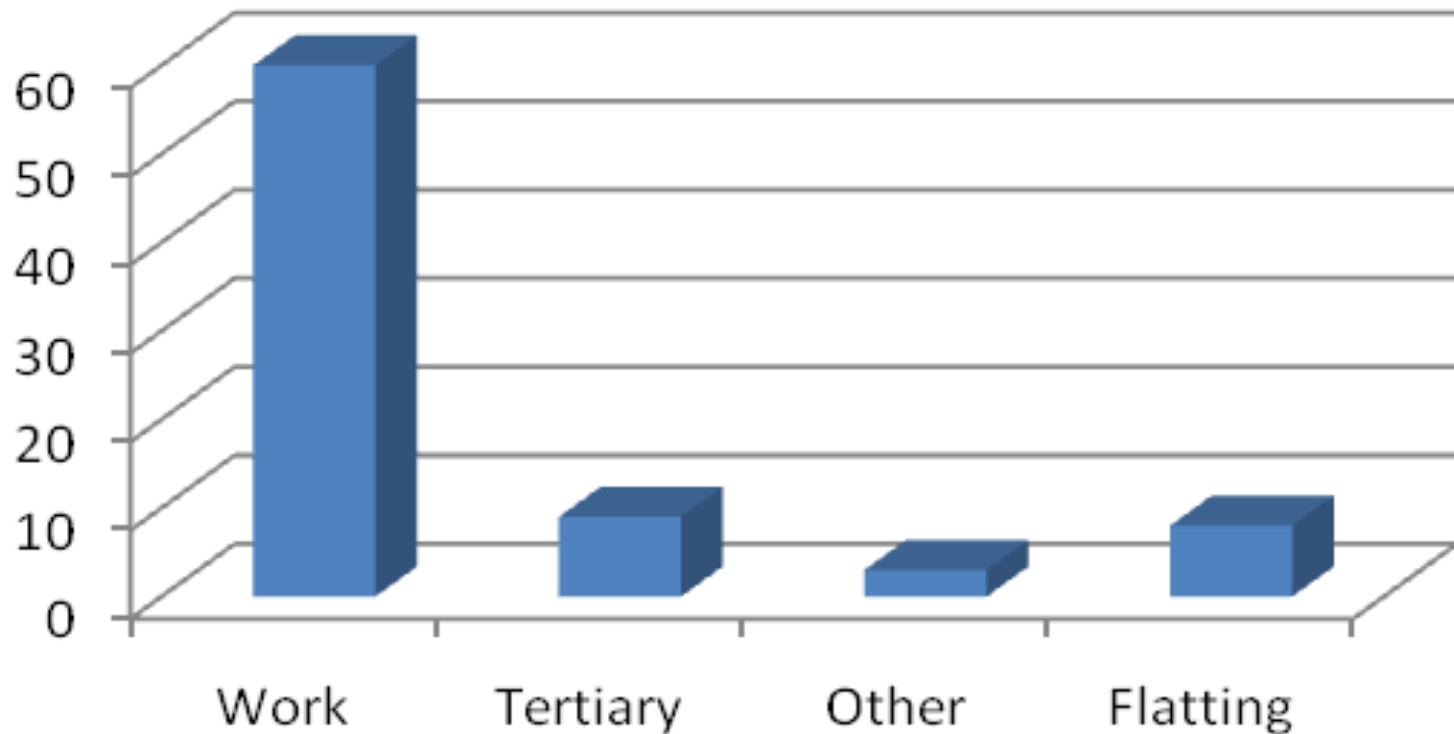
It is abundantly clear that the young people know what they want!

We need to not only listen but hear!

Feedback from across school student meetings

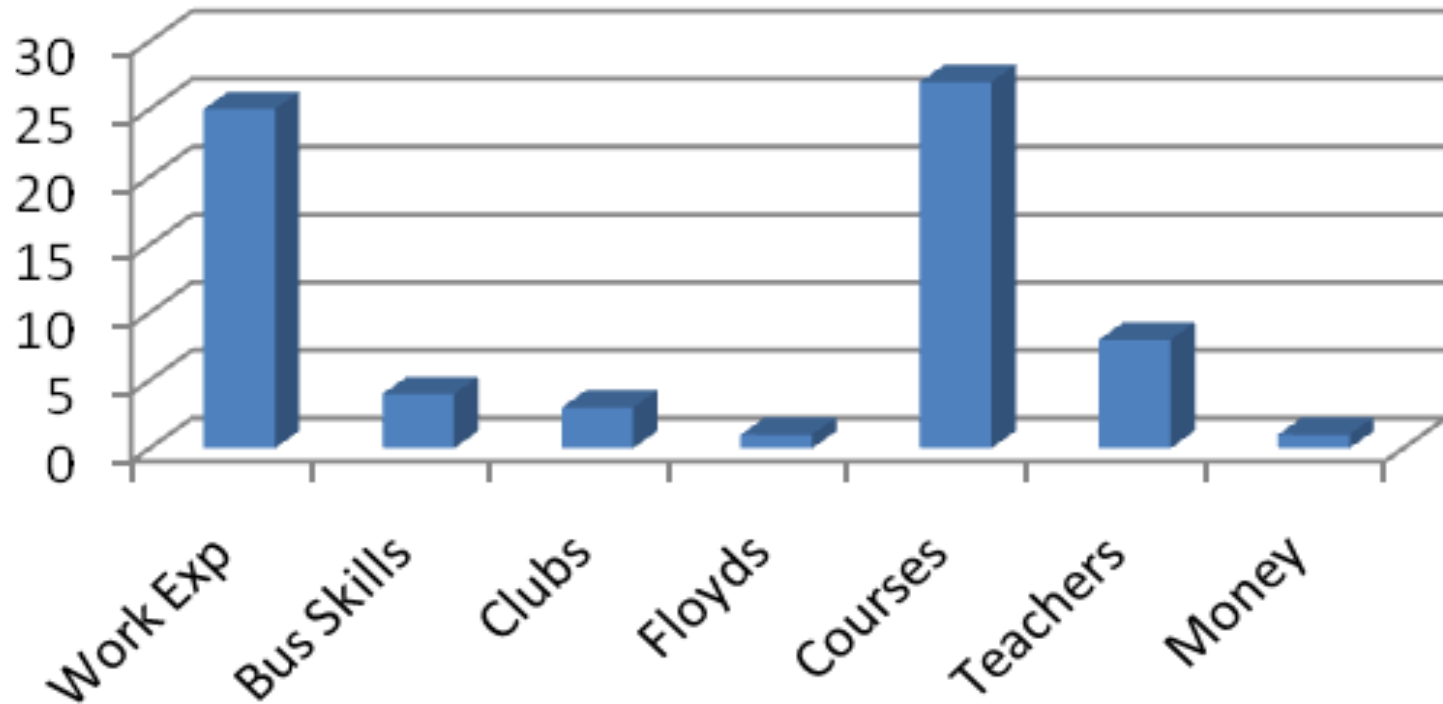
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Student Goals Post School - Across Ages



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What will help to reach goals - across ages



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Outcomes so far:

- Empowering young people (cross school student network)
- Better informed parents (parent support network)
- Maximising opportunities through a consortium approach
- A generic transition planning process
- Working closely with Career Services
- Better informed teachers and support staff through targeted PD
- Principal network created to tackle 'whole of school' approach
- School Leaver tracking and support system
- Government departments beginning to talk to each other!
- The beginnings of a structure to support young people and family
- The beginnings of a link with local business and employers
- Local services beginning to plan more effectively for provision

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THE CHALLENGE:

- A 'whole of school' approach to transition!
- Effective inter-agency collaboration (Pilot Project in Christchurch)
- A move from service orientated provision to individualised provision
- Satisfying the aspirations of a new generation of young people who have very different goals and aspirations!!

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THE FUTURE:

- **Endorsement from NZ Government Officials Group on Transition**
- **Current Review of Special Education**
- **Intended roll out of Service across the country**

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If you would be interested in establishing an Australasian Partnership on Transition please contact:

Colin Gladstone

Manager Lead School Transition Service

schoolstransition@allenvale.school.nz