

NCEA Review and Maintenance Programme – 2026 updates

Review and maintenance work has been undertaken for all three levels of NZC NCEA for 2026. This pdf document contains the updated Achievement Standards for **New Zealand Sign Language Level 2**. In January 2026 the NCEA website will be updated with these changes for Level 1, and the pdf version will be removed as it will no longer be necessary. For Levels 2 and 3, NZQA will update their website with the registered standards in December. For external assessment specifications, refer to the NZQA website.

Subject: New Zealand Sign Language Level 2

Standard	What's changed?
AS2.5 91802	Explanatory Note 6: Removal of reference to real-life resources

Achievement Standard

Subject Reference		New Zealand Sign Language 2.5		
Title		Sign a variety of text types in New Zealand Sign Language to convey information, ideas, and opinions in genuine contexts		
Level	2	Credits	5	Assessment Internal
Subfield		Languages		
Domain		New Zealand Sign Language		
Status		Registered	Status date	September 2025
Planned review date		December 2028	Date version published	December 2025

This achievement standard involves signing a variety of text types in New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) to convey information, ideas, and opinions in genuine contexts.

Achievement Criteria

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sign a variety of text types in New Zealand Sign Language to convey information, ideas, and opinions in genuine contexts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sign a variety of text types in convincing New Zealand Sign Language to convey information, ideas, and opinions in genuine contexts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sign a variety of text types in effective New Zealand Sign Language to convey information, ideas, and opinions in genuine contexts.

Explanatory Notes

Version 1 was republished in December 2015 to update the hyperlink to the conditions of assessment in explanatory note 7.

- This achievement standard is derived from the Learning Languages learning area, Communication, Language Knowledge, and Cultural Knowledge strands, Curriculum Level 7 of *The New Zealand Curriculum*, Learning Media, Ministry of Education, 2007; and is related to the material in the Teaching and Learning Guide for Languages, Ministry of Education, at <http://seniorsecondary.tki.org.nz>.
- Sign a variety of text types in New Zealand Sign Language* involves signing texts that fulfil communicative intents that are as realistic as possible, and that communicate information, and express and justify ideas and opinions. It also involves organising information in a linguistically and culturally appropriate format and style, and may include:
 - drafting
 - reworking over a period of time.

Communication is achieved overall, despite inconsistencies, such as:

- articulation of signs
- vocabulary choice
- sign order (syntax)
- facial grammar and expression
- use of space for reference
- fluency and pace of delivery.

Sign a variety of text types in convincing New Zealand Sign Language involves developing and connecting information, ideas, and opinions in NZSL that is generally credible. A range of language and language features are selected and used that are fit for purpose and audience. Communication is not significantly hindered by inconsistencies.

Sign a variety of text types in effective New Zealand Sign Language involves developing and integrating information, ideas, and opinions in NZSL that is *controlled*. A range of language and language features that are fit for purpose and audience are capably selected and successfully used. Communication is not hindered by inconsistencies.

- 3 *Genuine contexts* refers to real-life rather than contrived or artificial situations. Where situations involve simulation, the simulation should be as realistic as possible: i.e. plausible, rather than contrived.
- 4 *Variety* refers to a range of different texts created for different audiences and purposes.
- 5 The quality of the texts, considered as a whole, is more important than the length.
- 6 Conditions of Assessment related to this achievement standard can be found at <http://ncea.tki.org.nz/Resources-for-Internally-Assessed-Achievement-Standards>.

Quality Assurance

- 1 Providers and Industry Training Organisations must have been granted consent to assess by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against achievement standards.
- 2 Organisations with consent to assess and Industry Training Organisations assessing against achievement standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those achievement standards.

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference

0233