

Staying on with a Caregiver

Mā te huruhuru, ka rere te manu.

Prepare our rangatahi well, so that they can realise their potential.

Rangatahi have the option to continue (or return to) living with whānau/non-kin caregivers after their discharge from care. This arrangement gives rangatahi the opportunity to increase their independence with support from their caregiving whānau, as they gradually step away from care.

Staying on with caregiving whānau is an option from 18 to 21 years old, with ongoing support from Oranga Tamariki. This is known as Entitlement to Remain or Return Living with a Caregiver (ETRR).

Tama's story:

Tama has been preparing to transition from care into adulthood and is approaching his 18th birthday when he will be discharged from care. At Tama's transition planning hui he shares that he wants to remain living with his caregiver – his Auntie Hine. Hine, his whānau and others at the hui all agree that this is the best opportunity for Tama to have continued support as he increases his independence.

When it's time to decide on a Living Arrangement Agreement, Tama and Hine are supported by Tama's transition worker, social worker and Hine's caregiver social worker, who help them discuss what this arrangement will look like.

Tama is encouraged to take on more responsibility in the home and practice the skills he'll need when he goes flatting. As part of the agreement, Tama will be responsible for shopping and cooking one dinner a week for the whānau. Tama's board amount is lowered, so that he can use this extra money to contribute towards groceries. Tama's transition worker helps him prepare the first week's meal, and the caregiver social worker contacts Hine after a couple of weeks to check that this arrangement is working for everyone.



1
Rangatahi supported as they transition from care into adulthood



5
Rangatahi and caregiving whānau are supported with additional needs (if applicable)



2
Rangatahi and caregiving whānau understand the entitlement to remain or return to living with their caregiver



6
Arrangement is entered in the rangatahi record



3
The living arrangement is discussed and agreed



7
Caregiver social worker partners with the transition worker (if applicable) to actively monitor the arrangement



4
Board amount and financial contribution from rangatahi and Oranga Tamariki is decided



8
Caregiver social worker continues to support caregiving whānau

1 Rangatahi will have regular kōrero and planning hui for what will happen after Oranga Tamariki discharge legal care orders. Before rangatahi turn 18, they will be supported to have:

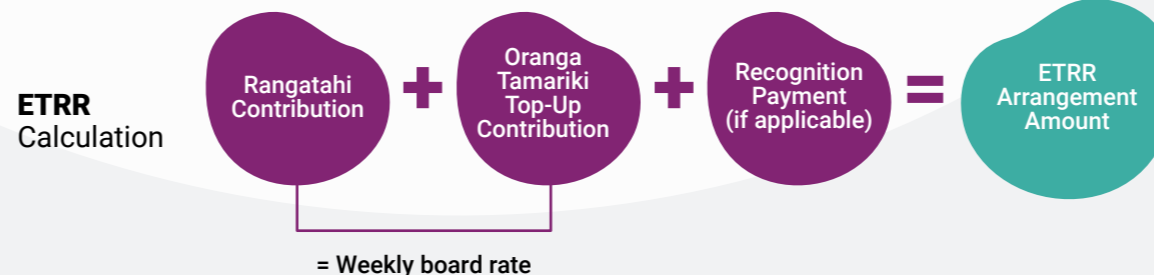
- their own bank account and eftpos card
- photo identification
- an IRD number
- a Transition Plan
- referral to a transition worker (with rangatahi consent).

2 Transition planning hui are a good opportunity for rangatahi, their whānau and caregiving whānau to be informed and understand their rights to ongoing support and start to plan for ETRR.

3 A Living Arrangement Agreement is made, detailing how the rangatahi will remain living with their caregiving whānau. This includes: financial costs, responsibilities, duration of the agreement and the 'house rules'. The Living Arrangement Agreement is discussed and signed by the rangatahi, caregiving whānau and Oranga Tamariki.

4 Rangatahi will contribute up to 60% of their take-home income towards their weekly board amount, as part of the ETRR arrangement. The caregiver social worker and transition worker (if applicable), and any other relevant support people, will work with rangatahi and their caregiver to agree what the board amount and the rangatahi contribution will be. Oranga Tamariki will provide a top-up contribution to support rangatahi to meet the agreed board amount.

5 Where rangatahi have additional needs, they and the caregiving whānau will be supported to access adult services and entitlements. If there are costs which cannot be met through other financial assistance, a Recognition Payment can be made in addition to the agreed board amount (like the Higher Foster Care Allowance HFCA).



Transition assistance helpline
0800 55 89 89