

What happens after the programme

The MSA orders cover the time that the rangatahi is in the MSD programme. After the programme is completed, the rangatahi is put on a supervision order and goes back to their community.

Their social worker keeps working with the rangatahi to help them and their whānau or family to achieve the goals identified in their plan.

The MSA programme clinical team also continues to support the rangatahi by:

- checking in regularly
- supporting them to work on their life skills
- monitoring their plans and progress.

The clinical team can also offer support and guidance to social workers and other key people involved with the rangatahi.

Rangatahi have legal rights

We support rangatahi to understand their rights.

- Rangatahi have a right to access the information they need to participate in decision-making in a way that they can understand.
- Rangatahi have a right to be told about any court orders that apply to them.
- Rangatahi have a right to a lawyer or youth advocate.
- Rangatahi have a right to be treated fairly and respectfully.
- Rangatahi have a right to be part of planning for their future.
- Rangatahi have a right to give feedback and make complaints while they're in care or custody.

How the Military-Style Academy programme supports rangatahi

The programme helps rangatahi:

- connect back to education in a supported and positive way
- achieve goals they set
- improve physical fitness
- develop skills that will help them in the real world
- try new experiences
- understand their behaviour, how it is contributing to offending and how they can develop new positive behaviours.

Military-Style Academy programme

**Information for rangatahi
and their whānau, family
or caregiver**



The Military Style Academy (MSA) programme provides a structured and supportive environment with a strong cultural and therapeutic focus.

About the programme

The programme lasts between 3 and 12 months.

The rangatahi (young person):

- lives in an Oranga Tamariki residence with a small group of other rangatahi
- wears a uniform provided by the programme
- is supported.

The programme includes therapeutic work with rangatahi to help them better understand their thoughts, feelings and behaviours, and develop practical skills that can improve their oranga (wellbeing) and help them avoid offending in the future.

While the rangatahi lives in the residence

Monday to Friday focuses on personal growth, education, therapeutic support and developing positive behaviours. Activities are designed to help the rangatahi build confidence, resilience, self-discipline and the skills they need to achieve their goals.

Weekends focus on oranga, rest and recovery, and building and maintaining positive connections with whānau or family and others who are important to the rangatahi. Rangatahi may take part in sport and recreation, and work on life skills like cooking, cleaning and running a household.

If a rangatahi is sentenced to a military-style academy order before an MSA programme is available, their social worker and the programme team will work with them on a plan to cover the time until the next programme begins.

Making a support plan

Every rangatahi on the programme has their own support plan. They help put the plan together, along with their whānau or family, caregivers, the MSD clinical team and programme kaimahi (staff).

Their plan helps them work on:

- self-discipline
- cultural connections
- respectful relationships
- education and employment skills
- skills to reduce the chances of reoffending
- preparing for a safe and successful return to their whānau or family and community.

How whānau and family support positive changes

Whānau, families, caregivers, iwi and support networks play an important role while the rangatahi is in the programme and when they return to their community. The social worker and other kaimahi will work with the whānau or family so they:

- understand how they can make changes and support their rangatahi to make changes that support their oranga and mean they're less likely to reoffend
- take part in planning and transition discussions
- attend and engage with programmes and support services
- maintain and strengthen positive relationships with their rangatahi
- support rangatahi to return to the community and build on positive behaviours.

