



Save the Children

# Take Action Resource pack

Empowering and supporting you to *take action* on issues you see in your local and global community.



# Take Action Resource Pack

- 1 About Save the Children and Generation Hope
- 2 Teacher and whānau information and curriculum links
- 3 Setting up your Take Action group
- 4 Brand guidelines
- 5 Advocacy inquiry cycle
- 6 A-Z action ideas
- 7 Youth changemakers in action!
- 8 Children's rights
- 9 Writing a submission
- 10 How to communicate your message
- 11 Journey and training
- 12 Workshop schedule 2024

# About Save the Children New Zealand



**Save the Children**



## Save the Children

- We work in over 120 countries across the world!
- We deliver projects that involve the whole community to transform children's lives and ensure their rights are met.
- We do this in many ways and work hard to end child poverty and child labour. We fight for education and health to be accessible for all children.

The work of Save the Children here in Aotearoa and around the world is guided by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This important agreement was created in 1989 and signed by New Zealand in 1993. The views of children are an essential part of this convention, whereby children must be consulted on issues that impact them. Our education programme, Generation Hope New Zealand, and Take Action Groups, aim to empower children to speak up and bring their voices to decision makers.

## Here in Aotearoa we...

- Advocate to make sure the Government is doing its best for tamariki and rangatahi.
- Educate children to know their rights and speak up for change.
- Amplify youth voice through our youth programme Generation Hope NZ and Take Action Groups.
- Raise funds to support projects around the world.





# About Generation Hope New Zealand



Generation Hope New Zealand launched in 2023 and works to mobilise young people to stand up, step out and create change. We create opportunities and support passionate rangatahi like yourself to create positive change.

We care about what young people have to say and believe in the power of young people to drive positive change. There are multiple ways young people can join the Gen Hope whānau:



## Youth Rōpū

This is the core group of young people who guide and lead our work. They are changemakers from across NZ who come together to have their say on the issues we focus on, the events we run and how we engage with other young people. You can learn more [here](#).

## Take Action Groups

Launching in 2024, Take Action Groups provide support for young change makers. We support and back the power of young people to drive positive change - read on to learn more about Take Action groups!

## Events

We organise youth-focused events. From online panels with decision makers to in-person events inspiring young people to take action.



## Online community

Our [social media](#) platforms aim to inspire young people in the face of so many global crises. We educate, inspire and connect young people to opportunities for action through our [Instagram](#) and Tik Tok launching soon!





# Take Action Groups

Take Action groups are supported by Save the Children NZ and Generation Hope, which sit within the advocacy, youth and schools branch of our organisation. We are a team of teachers, youth development workers and advocacy experts who are passionate about amplifying the voices of children and young people.

Take Action groups support children, youth, schools and community groups to get involved in creating change in their local or global community. Take Action groups empower and support children and young people to identify an issue and take action.

An essential part of inquiry-based learning is to “Take Action”. Setting up and participating in a Take Action group connects to numerous strands of the New Zealand curriculum.

## How It Works



Young people register their group or their interest in creating a group.



“Take Action” starter pack is sent to provide ideas and inspiration.



Young people set up their group and together make an action plan. This could include fundraising for a cause they care about, writing a letter to an MP, or holding an event such as a webinar or a panel.



Stay connected. Join our email list to stay up to date with other groups across the country and join our quarterly workshops to upskill and connect.

## What do Take Action groups receive?

- Take Action group members receive invites to events and training opportunities, such as workshops on advocacy, communications, and children’s rights.
- Opportunities to contribute to Save the Children New Zealand’s advocacy work and our Generation Hope youth programme.
- Connections to other Take Action groups across the country to create a network of passionate rangatahi.
- Support from Save the Children New Zealand to amplify youth voice.



**Save the Children**

# How to set up your Take Action group

1

## **Recruit your group!**

See who in your school or community is interested in this kaupapa and would like to join you. Some ideas for recruiting your group:

- Speak at your school assembly to encourage students join you.
- Host an info session at lunch time.
- Hang posters around your school or community advertising the group.
- Put a notice in your school newsletter.
- Post on your school social media channels and intranet.

2

## **Share our Children's Rights video with your team**

This is a super helpful video for everyone to watch, as children's rights apply to every element of daily life and can be used to strengthen your cause.



3

## **Set your team Kaupapa**

Together, brainstorm ideas on the values you want to uphold as a group. This is really important to set the foundations on how you interact with each other. Ensure all voices are heard during this discussion. Ideas on how to do this are on the next page.

4

## **Decide how you will function as a team**

This is completely up to you as to how you decide to do this. Some ideas and questions to get you started;

- Will you have roles in your group?
- Will you send an agenda out before a meeting and have a minute taker throughout the meeting?
- How will you communicate with each other? Instagram group, messenger group, emails?
- How often will you meet? How long will your meetings be?
- How will you communicate with your community or school?

5

## **Decide what your focus and objectives will be**

What is your group passionate about? What issues do you see in your community that you could take action on? Refer to the advocacy inquiry cycle (page 11) to help your team develop their focus.

# How to set up your Take Action group

## Team kaupapa session



It's important to develop a team kaupapa in order to create a safe space that everyone feels valued and that they can contribute. This kaupapa will outline the key values that you will choose to uphold as a group. Here is a suggestion for how you could run this session, please remember this is just an idea- you can create your group however you want!



### Ko wai au? (Who am I?)

Get each member to tell each other about themselves.

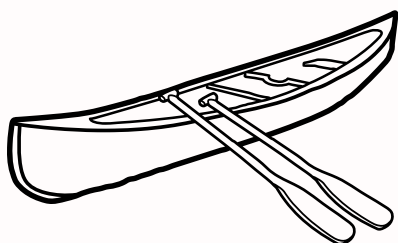
This is a chance to get to know each other;

- Who are you? Where do you come from or whakapapa to?
- What are your passions and strengths?
- What do you need when working in a group?
- Why you joined or want to create a Take Action group?

### Ko wai tātou? (Who are we?)

This is your chance to work out who you are as a group, what values you choose to uphold? How do we honour what each other needs when working in a team? How do all our paddles work together to reach our goal?

Have a discussion and list what you value. Make a 'team kaupapa' document and ensure everyone has a copy so you use it throughout the year.



*Here are some examples of some group rules and values:*

- We will respect each other's views and opinions.
- We will always listen when someone else is speaking.
- We will communicate when we cannot make it to a meeting at least 24 hours before.
- We will have FUN and support each other.



# How to set up your **Take Action** group



Decide how you will function as a team.

## Role ideas

*Please note these are ideas, it is not essential for your team to have roles if you would prefer not to.*



### Chair person

The role of the person chairing a meeting is to:

- Send out an agenda to everyone in advance so everyone is aware what will be discussed and the purposes of the meeting.
- They facilitate the conversation ensuring all members are heard.
- Delegate tasks- when actions come up, they facilitate seeing who is interested in taking on this task.



### Minute taker (note taker)

The role of this person is to take notes on what is discussed in the meeting, any action points (which is a to-do list), who is responsible for these actions and ensure everyone has a copy of the minutes (notes) at the end of the meeting. This could be in a google drive or emailed out.



### Graphic designer

This depends what your group will want to focus on but if you are interested in running events or fundraisers it might be useful to have someone in your team in charge of designing posters and promotional material.



### School or community spokesperson

This would be the key person to communicate to the school what you are doing. It might look like organising to speak in assembly about an upcoming submission you are doing or it could include keeping your teachers on board by sending them a little update every now and again.

*Please note these are ideas, you can do what works best for your group. This might look like designing your own roles or having none at all!*



**Save the Children**

# Branding & Operations guidelines

**Take Action groups are supported by Save the Children NZ and Generation Hope.**

*This means that the work your group does is NOT on behalf of our organisation, but can be in support of Save the Children. We provide resources and training to empower you to take action in your local community.*

*Because of this, your communications need to be clear about this. Here are a few guidelines to follow.*

## Using the Save the Children logo

1

- Please do not use the Save the Children logo on your promotion materials. As an organisation we have very specific guidelines on who can and can't use our logo.
- We have a logo you can use though if you wish! This is the logo that can be used across your materials.
- Reach out to us at [youth@scnz.org.nz](mailto:youth@scnz.org.nz) for a copy of this logo.

**In support of**

**Save the Children**

## Speaking up

2

When speaking up for a cause, advocating in your local community or speaking publicly about your cause, we ask you refrain from using phrases such as “on behalf of Save the Children.” The reason for this is we have strict rules as an organisation about who can be our official spokespeople.

***We would love to hear about what you are doing! Please get in touch if there is any way we can support your mahi.***

# New Zealand Curriculum Links

## Vision

For young people to be confident, connected, actively involved, lifelong learners.

- Take Action Groups support children and youth to achieve this vision by empowering them so that they can make a difference when they connect with one another and advocate for change.

## Principles

Take Action Groups support all eight principles of the New Zealand Curriculum

- Take Action Groups have strong connections to the *community engagement* and *future focus* principles of the NZ Curriculum.

## Values

Take Action Groups support development of the key values of:

- Innovation, inquiry and curiosity by facing today's challenges with hope and developing a solution and action focused attitude.
- Equity through fairness and social justice.
- Respect for the rights of themselves and others.
- Community and participation for the common good.

## Key Competencies

Take Action Groups foster the key competencies of:

- Participating and contributing.
- Thinking.
- Relating to others.

## Social Sciences

- *Identity Culture and Organisation.*
- *Students learn about society and communities and how they function.*

## Health and Physical Education

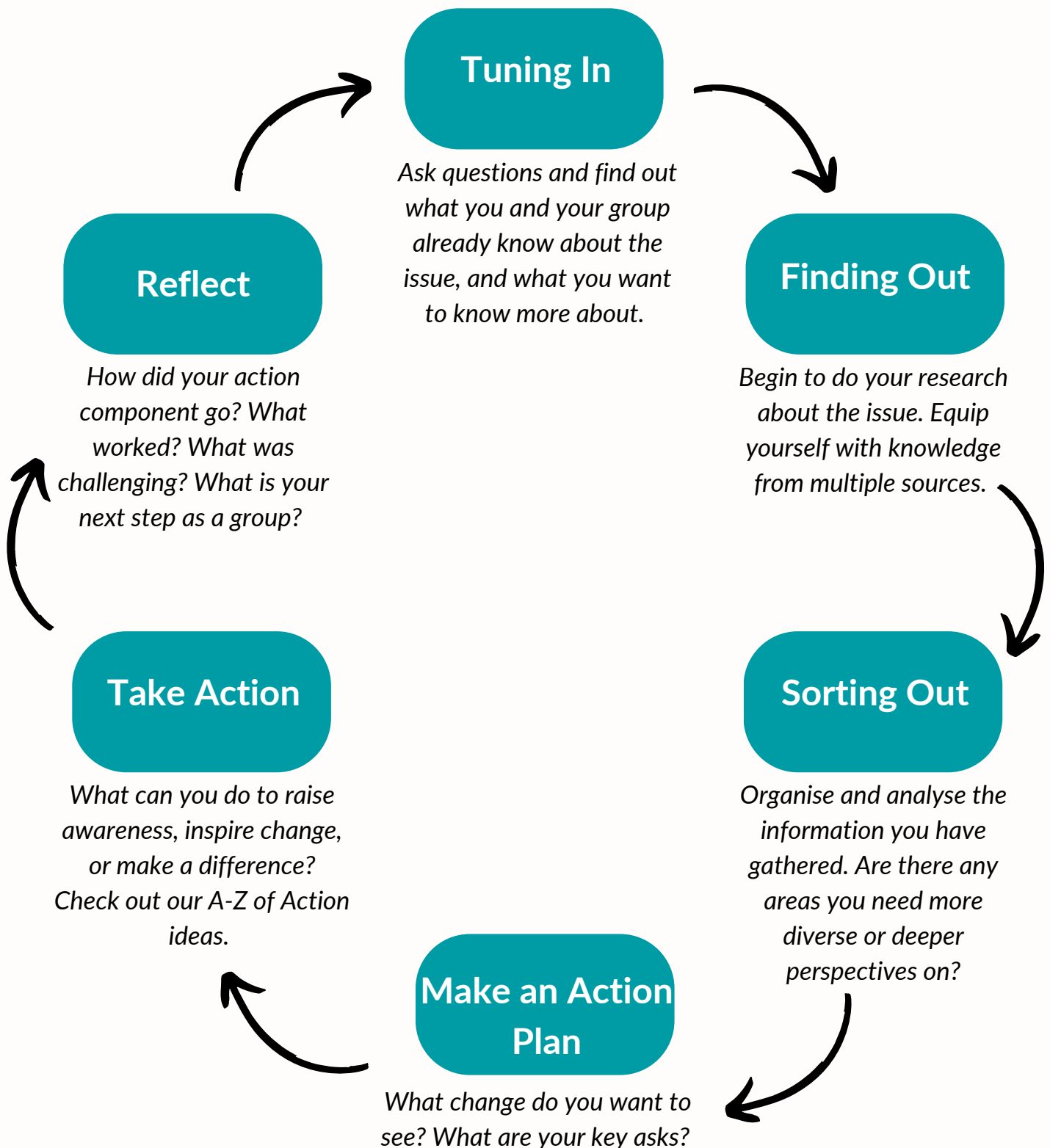
- *Rights responsibilities and law.*
- *Societal attitudes and values.*
- *Community resources.*
- *People and the environment.*





# Action Inquiry Cycle

Using an inquiry cycle to research, plan, and execute your advocacy work is a powerful tool. Use this inquiry cycle to develop your action plan.



# A-Z of Action Ideas

There are so many ways to take action, such as fundraising, amplifying youth voice or advocacy! Here are a few ideas your Take Action group might be interested in.

If you are fundraising for Save the Children, reach out and let us know!  
[youth@scnz.org.nz](mailto:youth@scnz.org.nz)

**A** Auction, advocate, audit, ask an expert.

**B** Bake sale, book sale, birthday donations.

**C** Car wash, crazy hair day, conduct a survey, connect your school to Generation Hope campaigns.

**D** Donate your birthday, disco.

**E** Educate others about your cause, host an exhibition, ensure equal access.

**F** Fundraise, foods of the world shared meal, fancy dress day

**G** Give something up, garage sale, garden party

**H** Head shave, connect your cause to human rights

**I** Investigate, invent something to solve a problem.

# A-Z of Action Ideas

**J** Jump jam fundraising event.

**K** Karaoke event, make yourself knowledgeable about your cause.

**L** Loose change collection box.

**M** Mufti day, hold a meeting to discuss the issue.

**N** Numbers- use statistics to advocate for your cause. What are some key statistics that strengthen your mahi?

**O** One for one- approach a sponsor to match your raise.

**P** Petition- start a petition for your cause.

**Q** Quiz night.

**R** Raise awareness for your cause through creative fun ways!

**S** Make signs to amplify your message or cause. Social Media.

**T** Trivia night, Tik Tok, tell others- educate, amplify, share your cause!



# A-Z of Action Ideas

**U** Stand UP- encourage others to join your cause!

**V** Voice- tell others about your issue or cause- you could share in an assembly or to your class.

**W** Write to your local MP, write an article, social media post or book about your issue.

**X** X factor talent show fundraiser.

**Y** Yoga fundraiser.

**Z** Zoom with an expert.

These are just a few ideas! You know what works for your group, your issue and in your school or local community. Whatever you do, have fun and think creatively.



Head to our [education hub](#) to learn about running a political hotseat or an online panel!



# Youth Changemakers in action!

Here are some examples of amazing Changemakers in action! These ideas might inspire you about ideas for action your Take Action group could do!



## Meet Sophie

For Sophie's 5th birthday she decided to fundraise for Save the Children NZ. Sophie is particularly concerned for children impacted by volcanoes, floods and those that don't have enough water. Sophie decided she wanted to help create change and fundraised \$360 for Save the Children NZ!



## Message in a bottle

Message in a Bottle was a campaign led by our Generation Hope Youth Rōpū. Young people collected over 200 climate action messages and presented them to our politicians on the steps of Parliament. Kids as young as six shared their voice on what they wanted to see our decision makers do!



## Meet Aarthi

Aarthi ran a child rights workshop with her local Girl Guides group. When tamariki know their rights they are more likely to speak up when they are not being upheld. She ran a workshop helping children understand their rights, why they are important and how they impact every area of life!

# Youth Changemakers in action!



## Make it 16

Make it 16 is a group of young people campaigning to lower the voting age to 16. Make it 16 was formed out of Youth Parliament in 2019. In three years they have launched numerous petitions, won a court case and been successful in having a bill drafted to potentially pass as legislation.



## Meet Juju

Juju has been an advocate within her school and has been a key player in amazing changes! Juju wrote her school's first diversity and inclusion strategy to ensure all students feel welcome and safe. She also organised her school's first cultural day where students could come dressed up to celebrate their culture.



## School fundraiser for Ukraine

When Ukraine was in need of humanitarian support, schools across Aotearoa banded together as "Schools for Ukraine". Children created hampers for raffles, sold lemonade, and organised mufti days wearing blue and yellow in support of Ukraine. Thousands of dollars were raised and donated to Save the Children to support our programmes on the ground in Ukraine.



# Children's Rights

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is an agreement by countries who have promised to protect children's rights. Aotearoa has ratified this convention, which means the Government has an obligation to ensure these rights are fulfilled.

Children's rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow, participate and reach their full potential. These rights apply to all children aged 0 to 18 years.

Our version of the Convention on the Rights of the Child summarises this important document for children and youth. Find it [here](#)

## Connecting Child's Rights to your cause!

Children's rights connect to every element of daily life - health, climate and the environment, privacy, safety, diversity and inclusion, homes, participation, you name it, it connects!

Use children's rights to strengthen your message. Join one of our children's rights workshops to learn more about how to do this.

*Under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child we have a right to...  
The Government and the adults in our lives must support us to have this right met!*



Download our guide to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Te Reo Māori and English from our [education hub](#)!



# Writing a Submission

## What is a submission?

*A submission is a way for you to have your say and influence the laws passed by our decision makers. It is a chance for you to share your thoughts, ideas, suggestions and concerns with a Select Committee. A Select Committee is a group of Members of Parliament who oversee a certain area, such as Justice, Health, Environment.*

## When to make a submission

You can see what is currently open for submissions [here](#).



## How to write a submission

- Read and understand what is being proposed.
- What do you think about this? What do you agree with? What do you disagree with?
- Can you find any research to support your view?
- Which children's rights support your view? Learn more about the Convention on the Rights of the Child [here](#).
- Write your submission!
- Are you writing a submission? Reach out, we would love to
- support you! [youth@scnz.org.nz](mailto:youth@scnz.org.nz)



## An example overview of a submission:

Save the Children has submitted on lowering the voting age to 16. This is a brief overview of the information we have included in our submissions.

Save the Children:

1. Supports lowering the voting age to include 16 and 17 years for Local Elections and Polls,
2. Recommends investing in resourcing Civics and Citizenship Education,
3. Provides Case Studies from around the world on lower voting ages, and
4. A list of key asks and recommendations.

Amongst this we have connected all these points to research, children's rights and conversations with young people.



**Save the Children**

# Communication

Communicating your ideas is key to producing a successful event, campaign or fundraiser! Communication brings your idea to life, inspires others to get involved and champion your cause !

Here are a four key communication steps to help you with your mahi.

## WHAT?

What is your idea, campaign or event. Explain this really clearly so others understand. It might be useful to get 2-3 people to read your work and see if they understand what you are trying to say.

## WHO ARE YOU SPEAKING TO?

How you communicate will change depending on who you are talking to. For example speaking to students in your school will be different to your teachers or whānau.

## CALL TO ACTION?

What are you asking your audience to do? Sign a petition, sign up for an event? Share their voice? Make this call to action clear.

## HOW CAN YOUR AUDIENCE TAKE ACTION?

Do they scan a QR code to sign a petition? Write an article for your school email and raise awareness? Follow your social media? Donate to a cause? How do they get involved?



# Your turn!

*Have a go at how you would communicate this idea!*

You are hosting a bake sale at school to fundraise for Save the Children supporting our response to the conflict in Ukraine. You need students at your school to help do baking, set up the stall and sell the baking. How would you get people involved? What would you say? How would you say it?

Use the four key communication steps and write your communication concept here:

*What would you say?*

*How would you promote this?*



**Save the Children**

# Your Journey ahead!

1

## ***Meet and greet Zoom call with our Youth Engagement Team.***

This is an opportunity for you to ask questions, connect in with our organisation, receive resources and make sure you are well supported to set your group up.

2

## ***Recruit your team!***

Now you are ready to set your group up. The Youth Engagement Coordinator will send you some posters and stickers to help recruit your team.

3

## ***Keep in touch***

We would love to hear about your activities and action you take. Please feel free to reach out if you need any support, want us to promote things or show up to your events!

4

## ***Attend our training workshops***

We will be holding specific training workshops online over the year. Your group will be invited to these. This will be an opportunity to upskill in some areas that will be useful for your mahi such as mobilisation and activation, advocacy, communications, and fundraising.

5

## ***Connect with other groups***

Our Youth Programme aims to connect like-minded young people together. Once a year we will hold a Zoom call with groups across the country. This will be an opportunity to connect and share ideas!



**Save the Children**



**Ngā mihi nui!**

*Please keep in touch!*  
*youth@scnz.org.nz*  
*@generationhopenz*

