ORANGA TAMARIKI
Ministry for Children

OT-OIA-2026-0261

15 September 2026

s9(2)(a) [redacted]

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a) [redacted]

Thank you for your email, partially transferred from the New Zealand Police on 20 August 2026, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting information on support for children with disabled parents. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

You have requested:

- . . . *What work has been or is being done to protect children who have 2 disabled parents?*

Oranga Tamariki has not undertaken any specific work to protect children with two disabled parents. However, we have practice advice that stresses the belief that at Oranga Tamariki, disability is understood and accepted as a part of the diversity of the human experience, and that disabled people are treated with dignity and respect in all our interactions with them. Please see here for this advice: Upholding the rights and mana of disabled people and tāngata whaikaha Māori | Practice Centre | Oranga Tamariki.

Over the last two years we have worked alongside tāngata whaikaha who have lived experience of care and protection and/or youth justice services and those who support them to develop an Oranga Tamariki disability strategy. This includes updated disability definitions, as well as vision and priority areas for improving outcomes for disabled people who interact with Oranga Tamariki. It is intended to improve disability practice across the organisation The strategy has been approved by Te Riu, our leadership team, and we are now focusing on implementation. Please see here for information around this strategy: Supporting oranga for disabled people | Oranga Tamariki — Ministry for Children

Oranga Tamariki also has specialist supports including Regional Disability Advisors and an Internal Clinical Services Team that assist staff, children, families and caregivers to identify the best supports, including Needs Assessment and Service Coordination; Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and Special Education Services. They can also provide support to family and whānau in meetings (for example professional meetings and family group conferences), as well as provide

training and guidance to caregivers, residential care staff and the site team around disability support strategies.

Oranga Tamariki may make the information contained in this letter available to the public by publishing this on our website with your personal details removed.

I trust you find this information useful. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise them with Oranga Tamariki. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Claudia Boyles
National Director Disability
Enabling Communities