

Targeted and Guided Services for Beginning Principals T1, 2026

Evaluation Associates Te Huinga Kākākura Mātauranga are contracted to provide support for beginning principals. The service we are providing has two key features, targeted support and guided support. Please find below an outline of the key components of the service for your information.

Targeted Support

The targeted service is provided through individual principal advisor support. You will be assigned to a principal advisor who you will be in regular communication with. They will provide your scheduled targeted support and be available to respond to your queries.

The advisor will provide you as a beginning principal with personalised, contextualised and responsive support that is intended to build your confidence and capability as a principal. Our principal advisors are all experienced principals who will help you to understand the role of a principal, your particular school context and system level requirements in Aotearoa New Zealand, in order to be able to lead your school effectively.

You can expect to be supported in areas such as:

- building your knowledge, understanding and practice in your principal's role
- bringing effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- building operational management confidence and capabilities
- leading Government priorities
- identifying and accessing relevant opportunities in the guided supports and self-directed resources (as they are further developed for the Ministry)
- engaging in learning conversations with a trusted principal advisor who will listen, advise, coach and challenge as appropriate
- connecting to networks of colleagues and further support within the system and wider sector
- engaging with key leadership resources that reflect leadership within Aotearoa New Zealand
- developing and actioning personal professional learning goals and plans.

The table below outlines the individual support in term 1, 2026. From term 2 a new BP programme is to be provided.

Year One	Year Two
x3 two-hour virtual meetings with your Principal Advisor	x2 two-hour virtual meetings with your Principal Advisor
1 hour of virtual 'just in time' support if required.	1 hour of virtual 'just in time' support if required.



Service Delivery: Guided

The guided services are facilitated by the regional team of principal advisors in conjunction with other experts as appropriate. These are virtual collaborative learning opportunities with other beginning principals. Your assigned principal advisor will support you to access the guided opportunities outlined below:

Type	Main features
Communities of Practice (CoP) - Virtual	Groups of up to 10 beginning principals. CoPs are regionally or contextually based. Meet for up to four hours a term as determined by group e.g. 2 hrs X 2 or one 4 hr meeting. A local principal advisor will facilitate the virtual group meetings. They are an opportunity to build relationships and collaborate around agreed priorities, local shared areas of interest or need as determined by the group.
Virtual workshops	You will be able to attend two different national virtual workshops in term 1. These will be up to 2 hours per workshop. Each workshop will be repeated. The content will be determined by the Ministry of Education These will be facilitated by Te Mahau advisors or other experts. Regional principal advisor team leaders will manage all logistics. Recordings and resources will be made available after each workshop.

