

# Te Reo Hāpai

## The Language of Enrichment

A Maori language glossary for use in the  
mental health, addiction and disability  
sectors

*Nā Keri Opai* | Te Pou o te Whakaaro Nui

# Disability

## Māori to English

As at Friday 6 February 2026 at 1:17 PM

[www.tereohapai.nz](http://www.tereohapai.nz)



**A**

Māori	English
Ahurea Turi	Deaf Culture
Ahurea Whaikaha	People with Disabilities' Culture
Atarua	Blurred vision Seeing double

**H**

Māori	English
Hakiri	Hearing Impaired
<b>Haurua Turi</b> This term has come from the Deaf Community	Half Deaf
Hūkeke	Seizure

**I**

Māori	English
Iokerewai	Paralysis

**K**

Māori	English
Kanorau ā-roro	Neurodiversity

**M**

Māori	English
<b>Manaakiao</b> For more information visit [the New Zealand Williams Syndrome Association]( <a href="https://williams-syndrome.org.nz/manaakiao.html">https://williams-syndrome.org.nz/manaakiao.html</a> )	Williams Syndrome

**N**

Māori	English
Ngā Whaikaha	Disabilities

**P**

Māori	English
<b>Pūira Kehe</b> Odd numbered chromosome	Downs Syndrome

R	Māori	English
	Raru ā-io	Neurological Problem
	Raru Kori Tinana	Movement Problem Co-ordination Problem
	Rōnaki	Ramp
	Roro Ikura	Stroke

T	Māori	English
	Takiwātanga	Autism
	From 'tōku/tōna anō takiwā' - 'my/his/her own time and space'	
	Tangata Kāpō	Blind Person
	Tangata Matarehu	Visually Impaired Person
	Person with some visual ability	
	Tāngata Whaikaha	People with disabilities
	Tangata Whaitakiwātanga	Autistic Person
	Te Reo Rongo ā-whatu	Sign Language
	See also Te Reo Turi	
	Te Reo Turi	Sign Language
	See also Te Reo Rongo ā-whatu	
	Tōpūtanga Tāngata Whaikaha	Disability Persons Organisation (DPO)
	Tuhi Matapō	Braille
	Tūnga Waka Whaikaha	Disability Parking
	Tūnga Waka Whakatapoko	Accessible Parking
	Turi	Deaf

Māori	English
<b>Whaikaha</b> To have strength, to have ability, otherly abled, enabled. A word created within the Māori disabled community.	Disabled
<b>Whakatapoko</b> Eg - He whare whakatapoko - an accessible building	Access Accessible, Accessibility
<b>Wharepaku Whaikaha</b>	Disabled Toilet
<b>Wharepaku Whakatapoko</b>	Accessible Toilet