

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 Tuesday 13 January 2026 at 2:14 AM

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 |
| Haurua Turi This term has come from the Deaf Community | Half Deaf |
| Hūkeke | Seizure |

I

| Māori | English |
|-----------|-----------|
| Iokerewai | Paralysis |

K

| Māori | English |
|----------------|----------------|
| Kanorau ā-roto | Neurodiversity |

M

| Māori | English |
|--|-------------------|
| Manaakiao For more information visit [the New Zealand Williams Syndrome Association](https://williams-syndrome.org.nz/manaakiao.html) | Williams Syndrome |

N

| Māori | English |
|--------------|--------------|
| Ngā Whaikaha | Disabilities |

P

| Māori | English |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Pūira Kehe 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 From 'tōku/tōna anō takiwā' - 'my/his/her own time and space' | Autism |
| Tangata Kāpō | Blind Person |
| Tangata Matarehu Person with some visual ability | Visually Impaired Person |
| Tāngata Whaikaha | People with disabilities |
| Tangata Whaitakiwātanga | Autistic Person |
| Te Reo Rongo ā-whatu See also Te Reo Turi | Sign Language |
| Te Reo Turi See also Te Reo Rongo ā-whatu | Sign Language |
| Tōpūtanga Tāngata Whaikaha | Disability Persons Organisation (DPO) |
| Tuhi Matapō | Braille |
| Tūnga Waka Whaikaha | Disability Parking |
| Tūnga Waka Whakatapoko | Accessible Parking |
| Turi | Deaf |

W

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