

19 February 2020

Consultation on the Amendments to NZQA Rules to align with the Reforms of Vocational Education (RoVE)

We are pleased to provide comment to the NZQA on the amendments to NZQA Rules.

About Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood New Zealand

Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood New Zealand is a national organisation that promotes high-quality early childhood education (ECE) through level 5 programmes, initial teacher education, professional development, leadership programmes, advocacy and membership services.

As a membership organisation we represent early childhood education services and the teachers who provide education and care to thousands of infants, toddlers and young children. Our members are drawn from a diverse range of community-based and privately-owned education and care services, home-based services and kindergartens.

Te Rito Maioha is a NZQA Category 1 provider of initial teacher education for ECE teachers and is recognised as a leader in bicultural teacher education. We deliver a suite of qualifications and teacher education and professional development programmes that are of interest to both domestic and international students.

We are committed to high-quality early childhood care and education for every New Zealand child. That has been our purpose for over 55 years since our formation in 1963, originally as the New Zealand Association of Childcare Centres and later as Te Tari Puna Ora o Aotearoa | NZ Childcare Association.

General Comments

While we understand the new world of RoVE and the role of workforce development councils, we consider that as a PTE offering a suite of programmes leading into undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate programmes the changes to Rules 4.1, 5.1 and 13 that will require us to seek WDC endorsement of our undergraduate programmes is adding another layer of compliance when developing and seeking approval from NZQA.

We currently consult widely with the early childhood profession and secure appropriate support and evidence when we develop new programmes. To now include us in the mix with a WDC adds an additional step in the process of programme approval and current programme moderation/monitoring reviews and reapprovals.

We note that the Education and Training Bill spells out the functions of a WDC. We hope that WDC endorsements won't be unreasonably withheld or what WDCs won't delay programmes being approved and therefore delay delivery.

Make submission to the NZQA by 23 February 2020.

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