

Who can get help

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“A young boy was stood down from school for the seventh time.

The SWiS worker discussed a plan with his family, and found a male mentor for the boy.

The school board was impressed by the plan, accepted the boy’s apology, and reinstated him. As a result, the boy’s father – a single dad – sought support for his own difficulties, thanking the social worker for her efforts.”

Contact Family Works for confidential support

Family Works Whangarei (Genesis Centre)

16 Mair St, Regent, Whangarei
Ph: 09 437 6729 | admin.whangarei@fwn.org.nz

Family Works North Shore (Offices based in Mairangi & Castor Bays Presbyterian Church centre)

10 Penzance Road, Mairangi Bay, Auckland
Ph: 09 835 1288 | admin.waitakere@fwn.org.nz

Family Works Waitakere

2171 Great North Road, Avondale, Auckland
Ph: 09 835 1288 | admin.waitakere@fwn.org.nz

Family Works Leslie Centre

37B Dornwell Road, Mt Roskill, Auckland
Ph: 09 639 2016 | admin.lesliecentre@fwn.org.nz

Family Works South Auckland (Te Hononga)

10 Mahia Road Manurewa, Auckland 2102
Ph: 09 269 1009 | admin.tehononga@fwn.org.nz

Family Works Waikato (Te Ara Hou)

100 Morrinsville Rd, Silverdale, Hamilton
Ph: 07 858 4413 | admin.waikato@fwn.org.nz

Family Works Tauranga

126 Eleventh Ave, Tauranga 3110
Ph: 07 575 9709 | admin.tauranga@fwn.org.nz

Family Works Rotorua

48 Biak Street, Mangakakahi, Rotorua
Ph: 07 349 0990 | admin.rotorua@fwn.org.nz

Family Works Taupo (Tauhara Wing)

Waiora House, 100 Kaimanawa Street, Taupo
Ph: 07 378 6480 | admin.taupo@fwn.org.nz

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Familyworks
✧ Presbyterian Support Northern

Social Workers in Schools (SWiS)

Removing barriers to education and empowering success





Family Works Social Workers in Schools (SWiS)

Some kids struggle at school – they may be withdrawn or aggressive, being bullied or bullying others, disruptive or unnoticed, not getting on well with others or slipping behind in their schoolwork.

Social Workers in Schools are qualified social workers who work in partnership with families and schools so children can learn, grow and thrive.

- We identify the obstacles that prevent children from learning.
- We work with schools and parents to support children to overcome these obstacles.
- We help keep children safe from further harm.
- We link children and families with other agencies and support.

This is a free service for children/ tamariki in Year 1 to 8 and their families/ whānau in your school/kura.

How we can help

Here are some of the obstacles that make it difficult for children to learn and thrive:

- Family violence
- Emotional or psychological abuse
- Neglect
- Alcohol or drug abuse
- Physical or mental health issues
- Poverty
- Traumatic life events
- Grief and loss

These experiences can have devastating effects on a child's physical and emotional development. While each child will respond differently, the impacts may last a lifetime.

Our aim is to reduce the risk of further harm to children by strengthening:

- Social skills, self-esteem and confidence
- Relationships with peers
- Emotional resilience
- Family relationships
- Parenting skills
- Community connections



“In the end it's about making things better for the children so they can concentrate on learning.”

– Social Worker in Schools



Who we are

Social Workers in Schools/ kura are employed by Family Works Northern, a non-government social service provider.

Teachers, principals or community members can refer children to the service, which is voluntary for the families concerned.

Children or their family can also contact us, or the SWiS in their school, directly.

We partner with other organisations to champion children/ tamariki and make sure they and their families/ whānau have every chance to thrive.

Please ask us how we can help.