



Kiwi Chat Day

TERM 4, 2019

Wednesday 16 October 2019

Welcomes all school aged users of alternative and augmentative communication systems.

This time the Kiwi Chat Day will be held at the

Tahatai Coast School, Papamoa, Tauranga

Please see instructions for parking and directions at the end of the invite.

THEME OF THE DAY: DISCO!

TIMETABLE

9.45am	Arrival and introductions	Students and carers will be welcomed and introduced to staff running the day. It would be great if students could use their communication device to greet staff and other students.
	Morning Tea	We ask that students bring their own food and drinks, as some may have special dietary requirements. This is a great opportunity to talk to friends and see what they have been doing at their school. We will have tea and coffee available for adults.
	Presentation by Nathan	We have the pleasure of meeting Nathan, who is a 21 year old man who uses an eye gaze device. He will be chatting to us all for a short time about his experience using eye gaze and tips and info he wishes for parents, school staff, therapists, etc to know.
	Shared screen	Large group activity to set the DISCO theme
		Students will break into small groups
	Make a disco playlist	Listen to some great songs, give your opinion and choose your favourite to dance to later
	Make a jump jam routine	Practise some dance moves and then put them all together to make a jump jam routine
	Disco Face paint	Choose a face paint option and get your face (or your helpers face) painted in disco colours...lots of sparkles and stars!
	Costumes	Try on some of the costumes in the DISCO costume corner
	Disco Popcorn	

TalkLink Trust

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- Entry Ticket and Bracelet** Make some popcorn for eating at the party to sustain you through all that dancing
- Disco time** Make an entry bracelet for the DISCO....only those wearing their bracelet can get into the DISCO
- Disco time** End the year with a great dance party
- Vocabulary suggestions:** We are promoting the use of core words for our students who are using communication systems. Words related to colour, shape and size and describing words will all be great. These might be words such as turn, finish, good, bad, make, big, small, strong, help. There will also be low-tech resources available.

11.45am Finish

Where to come: **Tahatai Coast School** – please drop students off close to the entrance and then park on the road as there will not be enough visitor car parking spaces for everyone.

Attendance: **Can you please RSVP on the website at <https://talklink.org.nz/kiwichat-groups>**

Students are expected to attend with a support person. Please consider having a back up support person if required.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Reminders:

Students who would benefit from KiwiChat Days are:

- Students
 - who have been referred to TalkLink (are on the waitlist or are having an assessment at the moment)
 - who are in Follow Up (have already had a TalkLink assessment and have a communication system)
 - who you are thinking of referring to TalkLink and want to show their teacher/teacher aide/parent what communication systems look like (please talk to your TalkLink therapist before bringing a non-TalkLink referred student)
- Students who do not have extreme behaviours and will not struggle with the length of time being in the session and busy environment (if they are really overwhelmed and cannot cope with being present then they don't tend to get a lot out of the session and often cause other students to become upset). Chat to your TalkLink therapist if you are not sure!
- Have an adult who will be able to stay the whole time and take part in the activities and who wants to learn more about modelling and using communication systems

Adults who attend are expected to:

- Stay the whole time

- Have a communication system on you at all time, e.g. wear your core board, PODD book or other communication system throughout the sessions
- Model communication on the system the whole session
- Remember that the goal of the activities is not to finish the whole activity but rather to engage in social interactions and practice using your communication system with familiar and unfamiliar people
- Remember to take lots of time to wait (don't keep asking the questions again and again – just give the student time to think and come up with their own answer)
- Remember to let your student answer (even if they are struggling and you know what they are trying to say, give them the opportunity to give it a go)
- Help support your student if they are struggling with the noisy/busy environment, e.g. take them outside to have a sensory break and then come back into the session after 5minutes
- Remember - No side talk with other adults – you are here to support your student to use their communication system, so if you want to talk to another adult please do so outside of the session
- Have fun!