



**TE AHUREI
TOI O TĀMAKI** | **AUCKLAND
ARTS FESTIVAL**

THE SUPER SPECIAL DISABILITY ROADSHOW

**HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT ACCESS AND
INCLUSION IN AOTEAROA**





It's important to be aware that disability history and language – just like any cultural experience – varies from country to country. **The Super Special Disability Roadshow** was made in Scotland, by disabled people from Scotland, and represents their lived experience of the disability in the United Kingdom. While there are a lot of universal crossovers between their experience and disability in Aotearoa, we've put together a quick Aotearoa-focussed resource to supplement the Birds of Paradise education activities.

Changes in education and teaching methods – can you find out when young disabled people in the UK first got the right to post-16 education?

Here's some helpful Aotearoa-specific facts from the Office for Disability Issues (Te Tari Mō Ngā Take Hauātanga):

1989 Section 8 of the 1989 Education Act legislated for the right for all disabled children to attend their local school on the same terms as other children. The Education Act also says that disabled students have the same rights as any students to state education. It also allows children and young people who have advanced needs to stay at school until they're 21.

<https://www.odi.govt.nz/home/about-disability/history-of-disability-in-new-zealand/>

Key Language Terms

Personal Assistant: This is a term to describe someone supporting a disabled person. The term personal assistant is better than carer or companion. It is broader and can include a wider range of tasks and activities. In New Zealand people also say support worker or support person as well.

(Stace Robertson, Arts Access Aotearoa)

What does Access & Inclusion look like at Auckland Arts Festival?

- We have an Access & Inclusion policy for the organisation, promising to make the Festival an accessible workplace for staff, artists and audience members.
- **Audio Described performances:** Audio description is a narration service that describes the visual images and actions not spoken in the dialogue. Theatregoers are given headsets and sit in the audience with the headphone in one ear, listening to the description along with the sound from the show.
- **New Zealand Sign Language Interpreted performances:** Trained interpreters, situated on the left or right-hand side of the stage, will interpret the script during the performance using NZSL. There are seats reserved for these unique performances for d/Deaf audience members that give a clear view of the stage and the interpreters.
- **Captioning:** We provide captioning for any digital work, allowing people who are d/Deaf or hard of hearing to follow along with the dialogue and sounds. It's also a great resource for people who have English as a second language, who may struggle with the spoken dialogue.
- **Relaxed performances:** When a performance is "relaxed" it means it is a special performance of a show designed to welcome those who will benefit from a more relaxed performance environment. There will be a relaxed attitude to noise and movement during the performance. Some small changes are made to the light and sound effects and sometimes show content. There will also be a chill-out area available in the venue for patrons to go to during the show if needed.
- **Pay What You Can scheme:** The scheme allocates at least 30 tickets to a performance of the selected shows for community groups to attend and pay koha – as much or as little as they can. This provides financial accessibility and removes money as an obstacle to attending festival events.