

Assessment Specifications

Level 1 New Zealand Sign Language 2026

Published in March 2026

General information

Domain:	New Zealand Sign Language
Standards:	92357, 92358
Assessment method:	Digital submission
Final date for submission:	28 October 2026

[New Zealand Sign Language subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

Information relating to all achievement standards

Level 1 Vocabulary List

The New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) vocabulary list indicates language that will guide the setting of Level 1 NZSL external assessments. The lists are available on the NZSL subject page. Words outside of the approved vocabulary list will be glossed if their meaning is not evident from the text. Candidates are not permitted to access the vocabulary list during the assessment.

Conditions of assessment

Each assessment should be conducted in TWO sessions, 45 minutes per session. Each session will have different assessment content.

Authenticity

Teachers must closely supervise the process of evidence collection to ensure that candidates:

- do not copy from another person or source without appropriate acknowledgement
- do not receive guidance, scaffolding, instruction, assistance, or assessment conditions beyond what is specified as permissible in these Assessment Specifications

Where a teacher cannot verify that the assessment submitted is the authentic work of the candidate, they must notify NZQA of a possible Candidate Breach of External Assessment.

Special notes

Where responses are videoed, candidates should consider best practice for recording setup to ensure that all elements of signing are captured.

Information for candidates and schools on the NZQA digital submission portal is available on the NZQA website: [Digital submission](#).

Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

[Aromatawai special assessment conditions](#)

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard:	92357
Title:	Demonstrate understanding of New Zealand Sign Language related to everyday contexts
Version:	2
Number of credits:	5
Assessment medium:	Printed paper and video

Candidates will demonstrate their understanding of New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) by producing evidence in response to an assessment activity provided by NZQA, which involves watching videos of signed texts related to everyday contexts.

Responses may be written in te reo Māori, English, or may be signed in NZSL.

For written responses, candidates are encouraged to write no more than 300 words per session. For signed responses, candidates are encouraged to record 1–3 minutes per session.

Submission requirements

All evidence files must be uploaded using the NZQA digital submission process.

Written responses should be submitted as:

- TWO files (one per session)
- permitted file types: document (PDF, DOC, DOCX).

Signed responses should be submitted as:

- TWO video files (one per session)
- permitted file types: video (AVI, M4V, MP4, MOV, WEBM)
- file size maximum of 5GB.

Note that only these file types may be submitted, and that other file types may not be able to be marked.

Refer to other resources on the subject page at the NZQA website and the [Digital Submissions](#) page.

Also refer to other resources on [New Zealand Sign Language subject page](#).

Standard:	92358
Title:	Respond in New Zealand Sign Language related to everyday contexts
Version:	2
Number of credits:	5
Assessment medium:	Printed paper

Candidates will demonstrate their communicative skills in New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) by producing evidence in response to an assessment activity provided by NZQA, which involves responding in NZSL to simple visual and / or written prompts and questions.

Responses must be signed in NZSL by the candidate. Candidates are encouraged to record 1–3 minutes per session.

Submission requirements

Signed responses should be submitted as:

- TWO video files (one per session)
- permitted file types: video (AVI, M4V, MP4, MOV, WEBM)
- file size maximum of 5GB.

Note that only these file types may be submitted, and that other file types may not be able to be marked.

Refer to the resources on the subject page at the NZQA website and the [Digital Submissions](#) page.

Other resources are available on the [New Zealand Sign Language subject page](#).