

41126**Respond safely to family violence risk**

Kaupae Level	5
Whiwhinga Credit	10
Whāinga Purpose	<p>This skill standard is for people in community or government front line roles intending to develop knowledge and skills to respond safely to family violence risk.</p> <p>A person credited with this skill standard can respond to family violence risk in culturally safe ways that increase safety for victims and promote accountability for people using violence. They will be able to collaborate with specialist agencies and services to support an integrated response.</p> <p>This skill standard may be used in programmes of study leading to New Zealand qualifications and the <i>Family Violence Risk and Safety Practice (Entry)</i> (Micro-credential) [Ref: 129699].</p>

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Respond to family violence risk.	a. Explain how to validate and prioritise the safety of victim-survivors in ways that support their dignity and autonomy.
	b. Use non-collusive responses which support accountability of people who use violence.
	c. Respond to children and young people who are victims of family violence.
	d. Describe safe and culturally appropriate responses to family violence risk, including immediate risk concerns.
	e. Apply questioning strategies to identify risk indicators and level of family violence risk.
	f. Explain the legal tools available to support accountability for violence, safety for victims and reduce family violence risk.
	g. Reflect on own actions in reducing family violence risk.

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
2. Work collaboratively with other agencies and services to support integrated responses.	a. Describe the specialist family violence and sexual violence services role in a collaborative response.
	b. Demonstrate how collaborative responses can reduce family violence risk and enhance safety.
	c. Demonstrate how the victim-survivors information and voice is incorporated in a collaborative response.

Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria

Assessment specifications:

- It is recommended that learners achieve skill standard 41124 *Recognise and respond to family violence risk* before assessment against this skill standard.
- Assessment can be undertaken in a simulated environment.
- Assessment should be informed by the 'Entry Level' Family Violence Risk and Safety Practice Framework.
- Assessment must include recognition that each person and whānau situation is unique. Therefore, the evaluation of risk and the appropriate strategies and response are also unique to that context.
- Assessment criterion 1c – must consider high risk and recognition of how risk can change suddenly and escalate in unpredictable ways.
- Assessment criterion 1d – must consider a safe and culturally appropriate response tailored to a person's age, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexuality, and gender identity.
- Assessment criterion 2a – must consider shared risk analysis, safety and wellbeing strategies and demonstrate an understanding of the roles and responsibilities within a collaborative response.

Evidence provided for assessment against the skill standard must:

- be gathered in accordance with workplace or organisational policies and procedures;
- be gathered within the boundaries of the learner's role.

Definitions:

- *Collaborative responses* refer to multiagency responses, where the relevant organisations work collectively to implement risk management and safety strategies.
- *Culturally appropriate responses* refer to tailoring responses to ensure the person being engaged with experience responses and actions that are safe and respectful, and meet their cultural needs. It requires a worker to reflect on their own views and biases and develop knowledge of and respect for cultural difference and diversity.
- *Family violence risk* refers to the risk of further violence could result in homicide, suicide, serious injury and other forms of harm, trauma, and hardship caused by the person using violence and by harmful system responses.
- *Non-collusive responses* are responses that do not, either intentionally or unintentionally, indicate agreement with or minimise violence-supportive beliefs.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved.

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content

Safe responses and accountability:

- Validation of a person's experiences to maintain their dignity and autonomy, and consequences of harmful responses.
- Working with people who use violence, including how to engage without colluding.
- Collusive responses, and how to ensure responses to people using violence promote accountability.
- Culturally appropriate responses to tangata whenua that incorporate tikanga and mātauranga Māori.
- Culturally appropriate responses to people from marginalised communities.
- How inequity, discrimination and bias may have impacted people.
- Questioning techniques, probing questions, clarifying questions and reframing.
- Legal tools available, protection orders, police safety order – how to apply them, how they support safety and how they may increase risk.
- Disclosures, how to respond to disclosures by adults and children, what to listen for, say and what to do next.

Working collaboratively:

- Identification of specialist agencies in the community.
- Purpose and benefits of multi-agency collaboration.
- The importance of early referrals to the right specialist service.
- Multi-agency collaboration in practice.
- Shared risk management and safety plans.
- Roles and responsibilities of specialist workers in the context of a collaborative response - including understanding their own role and actions that support the leadership of specialist workers.
- Actions to ensure a victim-survivor and whānau-centred collaborative response.

Rauemi | Resources

- Carrington, H. & Thornburn, N. (2025). *Evidence-Based RED FLAGS for Intimate Partner Homicide*. Available at <https://womensrefuge.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Red-Flags-IPH-June2025.pdf>.
- Pasefika Proud resource. (2012). *Nga vaka o kāiga tapu. Nga vaka o kāiga tapu - A Pacific Conceptual Framework to address family violence in New Zealand*. Available at [PasefikaProudResource-Nga-Vaka-o-Kaiga-Tapu-Main-Pacific-Framework.pdf](https://www.pasefikaproud.org.nz/assets/PasefikaProudResource-Nga-Vaka-o-Kaiga-Tapu-Main-Pacific-Framework.pdf)
- Mandel, D. Mitchell, A. and Stearns Mandel, R. (n.d.). *How Domestic Violence Perpetrators Manipulate Systems*. Available at [PerpManipulation.pdf](https://www.perpmanipulation.com/PerpManipulation.pdf).
- Te Puna Aonui. (2022). *Analysis – Disabled people*. Available at <https://www.preventfsv.govt.nz/assets/National-strategy/Cohort-papers/Disabled-People-Analysis-Paper.pdf>.
- Te Puna Aonui. (2022). *Analysis – Ethnic, migrant and former refugee communities*. Available at <https://www.preventfsv.govt.nz/assets/National-strategy/Cohort-papers/Ethnic-Communities-Analysis-Paper.pdf>.
- Te Puna Aonui. (2022). *Analysis – LGBTQIA+ communities*. Available at <https://www.preventfsv.govt.nz/assets/National-strategy/Cohort-papers/LGBTQIA+-Analysis-Paper.pdf>.
- Te Puna Aonui. (2022). *Analysis – Older people and Kaumātua*. Available at <https://www.preventfsv.govt.nz/assets/National-strategy/Cohort-papers/Older-people-and-Kaumtua-Analysis-Paper.pdf>.
- The Centre for Family Violence and Sexual Violence Prevention. (2025). *Family Violence Risk and Safety Practice Framework*. Available at <https://www.preventfsv.govt.nz/assets/Workforce-Frameworks/Risk-and-Safety-Practice-Framework-Web-Version.pdf>.
- Vine Library | Family & Sexual Violence Research in NZ. (2025). *Vine – Violence Information Aotearoa*. Available at <https://www.vine.org.nz/vine-library>.
- Wilson, D, Mikahere-Hall, A, Sherwood, J, Cootes, J & Jackson, D. (2019). *Wāhine Māori: Keeping safe in unsafe relationships*. Available at https://niphmhr.aut.ac.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/330302/REPORT_E-Tu-Wahine.-E-Tu-Whanau-Wahine-Maori-keeping-safe-in-unsafe-relationships.pdf.

Pārongo Whakaū Kounga | Quality assurance information

Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa Standard Setting Body	Education, Health and Community Industry Skills Board
Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai DASS classification	Community and Social Services > Social Services > Social Service Work with Abuse, Neglect, and Violence
Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga CMR	0024

Hātepe Process	Putanga Version	Rā whakaputa Review Date	Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai Last date for assessment
Rēhitatanga Registration	1	29 January 2026	N/A
Kōrero whakakapinga Replacement information	N/A		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2030		

Please contact Education, Health and Community Industry Skills Board at qualifications@ehcisb.nz to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.