

LLLNZ Statement regarding inclusive language November 2023

La Leche League New Zealand (LLLNZ) is a breastfeeding support organisation that has provided information, support and encouragement to mothers, parents, and families for nearly 60 years.

Our mission is to help mothers breastfeed through mother-to-mother support, encouragement, information and education, and to promote a better understanding of breastfeeding as an important element in the healthy development of the baby and mother.

Society is constantly changing and evolving, and our approach to supporting families has not changed throughout the years.

Our inclusive language policy states “We recognise that the language we use can make a difference to those who will seek LLLNZ support and to those we reach. Publications produced for LLLNZ will use a variety of terms and images to reflect the variety of Leaders in our organisation and mothers, whanau and communities we hope to reach.”

Mothers, women, wahine, and mother-to-mother support will always be central to the history and mission of LLLNZ. La Leche League believes that broadening our language will honour and welcome those who may not use or identify with these terms. We strive to keep our communications focused on our mission to provide breastfeeding support to those in need.

La Leche League New Zealand has always been committed to learning and growing with the communities we support. We aim to foster a culture where all who access our support can feel empowered to feed and nurture their babies, knowing that all breastfeeding and parenting journeys are unique.