



## PROFESSIONAL DISCUSSIONS GUIDE SHEET: MODULE ONE

Module One contains information and some strong messages about quality public education. This sheet provides you with discussion starters and links to other resources to expand your debates.

### Learning Pathways

Consider the introduction 'Situating primary education' and the diagrammatic representations of the primary student, and national standards, learning pathways. (Module One p 2-3)

- How does your school use the processes outlined in the diagram to help develop capable and competent learners?
- In your school, how might the broad curriculum will become narrowed as shown in Zhao's diagram?
- How can these diagrams be used to help parents and communities understand the potential impact of National Standards on the learning paths of primary students?

### Develop your ability to articulate why you support quality education!

Chose one (or more) of the statements from NZEI's messaging and advancing quality public education statements (Module One pp 4-5).

- Do you agree with this statement? Why, or why not?
- What evidence is there in your school to support or oppose this statement?
- How does your school work to make a difference?
- How will National Standards help or hinder what you want to achieve for your students?

### What does it mean to be a professional teacher?

Discuss Judyth Sachs' quote...(Module One p6 ).

*'...teachers need to speak out and in so doing make their practices public and transparent which ensures that they are accountable to their students, their communities and their peers.'*

In small groups discuss

- What are our ethical and professional responsibilities?
- What professional strengths and beliefs support you as a teacher?
- What are the barriers to our professional stances in our setting, and nationally?
- How can teachers support one another to overcome such barriers?

For supporting information, read [Judyth Sachs' presentation](#), the [NZEI Te Riu Roa Code of Ethics](#) and the [New Zealand Teacher Council Code of Ethics](#) .

## Further NZEI resources

[Speak Up for Education](#)

[National Standards Resources](#)

## Further reading from Module One ...

**Intrigued by the links between accountability, standards, and activism?**

Read more from [Sachs' presentation](#) to the PPTA Professional Conference.

**Determined to provide a broad education for students growing up in a global world?**

Read the presentation by Zhao: '[Students as Global Entrepreneurs: Implications of Globalisation for Education](#)' at the New Zealand Principals' Federation Conference.

**Seeking further detail about what NZEI believes is needed for quality education?**

A Special Report to Annual Meeting 2011 "[Moving from Great to Excellent](#)" outlines what NZEI Te Riu Roa believes, and where we are heading.

## Take action and publicise your discussions!

Some of the discussions you have undertaken above could be recorded as part of the speech bubble activities available as part of [Speak Up for Education](#).