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NIUE EDUCATION PROGRESSES AI & DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN EDUCATION SECTOR

Alofi, Niue – 31 July 2025 - Niue's Department of Education with Cabinet endorsement, is progressing the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital tools into Niue's Education system.

Developed in collaboration with TeachSmart Ai Consultancy (NZ), led by educator and AI specialist Mr. Jerry Leaupepe, this initiative is to equip both students and teachers with the tools and skills needed for success in a rapidly changing world.

For students, AI can support personalized and engaging learning experiences, while for teachers, it can offer innovative tools to plan, assess, and manage classrooms more effectively.

This programme responds directly to Niue's National Digital Strategy (2024–2030) and the ICT Policy (2023–2030), while acknowledging the global shortage of teachers that even Niue is not immune to. The integration of AI aims to bridge these gaps by offering curriculum support, differentiated learning, and greater efficiency for teachers and administrators.

Five approved workstreams include AI Champions & Student Capability, which involves in-school professional development and a student AI pilot; AI Policy & Governance Framework, providing ethical and contextual guidance for AI use in schools; Curriculum Review & Alignment, delivering a unified curriculum map and learning progression tools; Education Digital Strategy Development, which outlines a long-term strategic roadmap for education transformation; and the Principal Appraisal Framework, ensuring system-wide leadership accountability aligned with New Zealand's Leadership Capabilities Framework.

The Minister for Social Services, Hon. Sonya Talagi welcomed the initiative stating, "This marks an exciting step forward for Niue. By embracing digital transformation in education, we are investing in the capacity of our students and teachers to thrive in the future. It's not just about technology it's about empowering our people with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to succeed in a digital world, while staying grounded in our cultural values."

Community consultations are planned for next week to build awareness, transparency, and trust for both Niue Primary and Niue High School families. These sessions will give parents, caregivers, and students the opportunity to learn how AI is used in classrooms, understand the benefits for student learning and teacher workload, and provide feedback and ask questions in an open, supportive forum.

Digital transformation is not about replacing teachers, it's about supporting them and giving them back that ever elusive gift of time. With AI, we're building a smarter, more resilient, and culturally responsive education system for Niue's future generations.

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For further information, please contact:

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