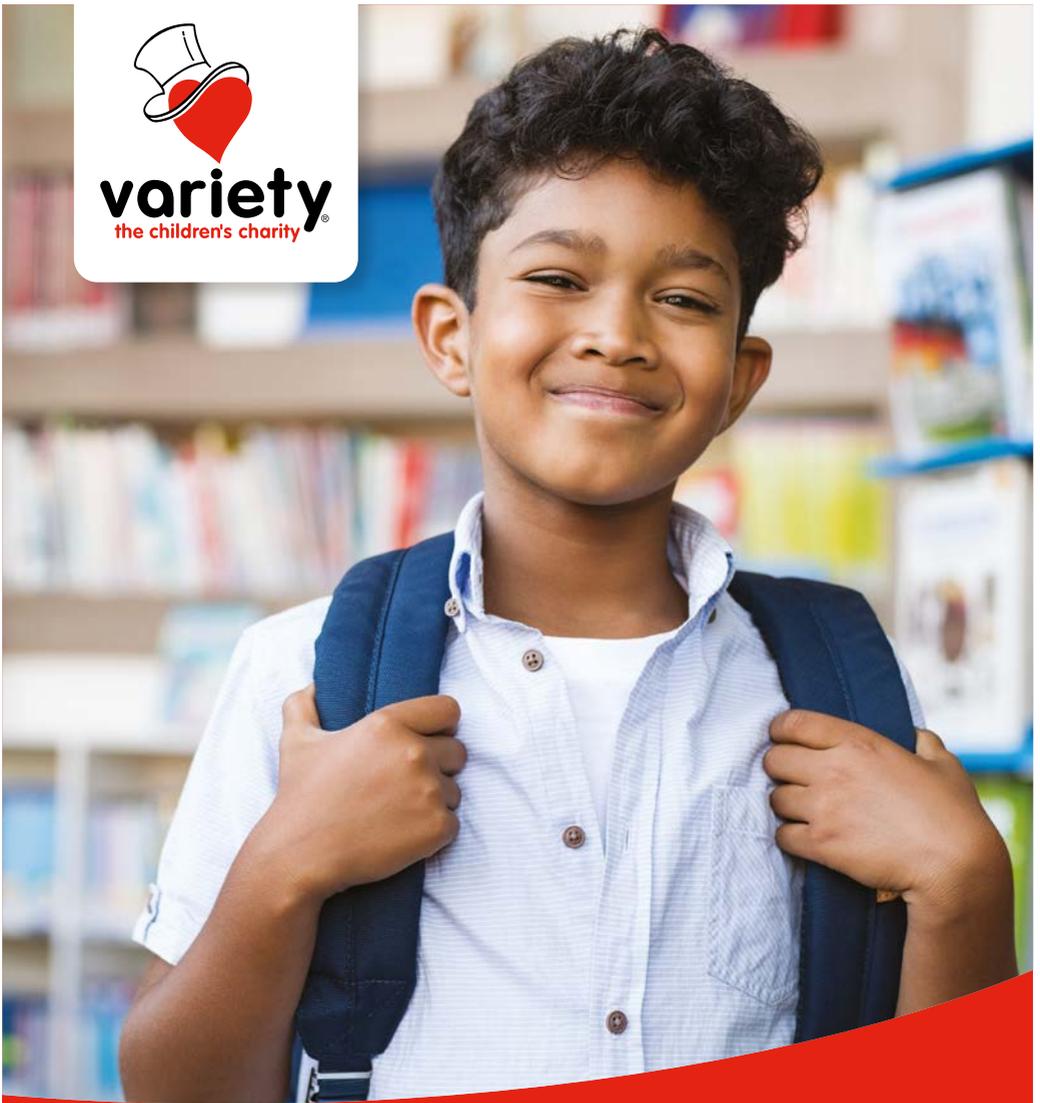




variety
the children's charity



Kiwi Kid Sponsorship

Supporting children and young people to
thrive in Aotearoa New Zealand

variety.org.nz

What Variety does

Variety provides funding to caregivers to help them provide the things their children need. Because children have different needs, Variety helps caregivers to pay for the essentials that support their children's education, health and wellbeing.

How Variety helps

Kiwi Kid Sponsorship (KKS)

Kiwi Kid Sponsorship matches a child (aged 4 to 17 years) to a sponsor who helps to pay for the essentials the child needs, like clothes, shoes, bedding, school-related costs, doctors and extracurricular activities. Children who are sponsored on KKS also get funding to spend on getting active.

Active Me-Kia Tū (AMKT)

Active Me-Kia Tū is part of Kiwi Kid Sponsorship. It can be spent on clothing, gear, and fees so children can take part in games, exercise, dance, play and sports.

Individual Grants

An individual grant is a one-off payment. This can be spent on:

- everyday essentials (bedding, clothes, shoes)
- school costs
- extracurricular activities
- medical fees and equipment
- technology.

A caregiver can apply for an Individual Grant whether their child has Kiwi Kid Sponsorship or not.



What is Kiwi Kid Sponsorship?

Kiwi Kid Sponsorship provides your child with \$450 a year to help you pay for the things they need for school, to stay healthy and to take part in activities.

How does Kiwi Kid Sponsorship work?

Your child is matched to a sponsor somewhere in New Zealand. Once a child has a sponsor, they can get Variety funding for basic essentials and for getting active.

You get \$450 each year to pay for essentials like:

- Clothing and shoes (from The Warehouse)
- School uniforms
- Bedding and towels
- School stationery
- School camps
- Digital devices (up to \$200)
- Extracurricular activities (school and club).

You also get \$300 to pay for activities and sports.



Can I apply for KKS for my child or children?

To apply for KKS your child must be:

- Aged 4 to 17 years **AND**
- A New Zealand resident or citizen; **AND**
- Your family must meet the income criteria listed on our website.

You can apply for **all your children** to go on to KKS, though it may take some time until each of them gets a sponsor.

Children can be on KKS until they are 18 years old.

What is a sponsor?

A sponsor is a caring person committed to your child's wellbeing. Your child's sponsor pays for the things they need through Variety. Your child's sponsor receives a photo of your child. Variety only shares your child's first name, age and the region in which they live.

What is Active Me-Kia Tū?

Every child on Kiwi Kid Sponsorship gets \$300 each year to get active doing the things they love.



You can spend your Active Me-Kia Tū funding on things like:

- Activity and sports clothes and shoes
- Dance clothes and shoes
- Bikes, skateboards, and scooters
- Registration fees and subscriptions
- Gear and equipment – like trampolines, walking shoes and weights, bats, pads, sticks and balls.
- Uniforms
- Coaching
- Competition fees
- Sports camps
- Transport.

Your child might know exactly what they want to do, but others may need more support. Ask your child about activities they enjoy and how they would like to use their Active Me-Kia Tū funding.

“Active Me-Kia Tū has such a huge impact in my life. I get to participate in more physical activities, make new friends and many more. But the most important thing is that the money and support that’s coming from Active Me-Kia Tū has really helped out my parents with all our sports bills at school and made it easier for my parents.”



How do I apply for Kiwi Kid Sponsorship?

Complete the online application form at variety.org.nz. You can ask a social worker, budgeting advisor, teacher or a friend to apply for you.



When you apply, you need to attach one of these documents to your application:

- A current Community Services Card **OR**
- A budget sheet from a budgeting agency **OR**
- Two months of bank statements.

You also need to attach:

1. A recent, clear colour photo of your child; **AND**
2. A copy of your child's birth certificate or their NZ passport or resident visa.



Example photo

What happens next?

After you apply, your child goes onto the Kiwi Kid Sponsorship waiting list.

It can take up to 6 months to find a sponsor for your child, but sometimes it can take longer.

What happens when my child gets a sponsor?

When your child gets a sponsor, Variety emails you a Welcome Pack with more information about Kiwi Kid Sponsorship.

Your child gets:

1. \$450 to spend on essentials **AND**
2. \$300 to spend on sport, play and activities.

How do I use my child's funding?

Contact Variety:

1. Go to: www.variety.org.nz **OR**
2. Email: kiwikids@variety.org.nz **OR**
3. Call (09) 520 4111.

You do not have to pay any of the Variety funding back.

Your school and Kiwi Kid Sponsorship

You might have a school champion in your school. School champions are school staff members who help whānau and caregivers to apply for Kiwi Kid Sponsorship and help manage their Variety funding.

Ask at your school office or email kiwikids@variety.org.nz to find out about your school champion.

"I've had opportunities I would never have had before being sponsored on Variety's Kiwi Kid Sponsorship programme. It meant I had what I needed for school and extra things like sports fees."

"Variety has given my children freedom to [do the] things that they may never ever have gotten to experience. It has given them the assurance that when something happens in school, they can participate. If they have a need, they are also confident that that need will be met, and they're not going to sit there feeling embarrassed that they don't have what's required for them to actually be able to participate."



What is an Individual Grant?

An individual grant is a one-off payment for something your child needs.

You can apply for an Individual Grant for:

- A bed or cot and bedding
- A car seat and baby gear
- Medical or mobility equipment
- Medical or educational assessments
- Doctor's appointments
- A digital device (only for children aged 8 to 18 years)
- Extracurricular activities
- School camps
- School uniforms
- Clothes and shoes.

You can apply for an Individual Grant on our website www.variety.org.nz



Variety reviews Individual Grant applications four times a year. You can apply at any time during the year.

Closing date	Decision made
31st January	End of February
30th April	End of May
31st July	End of August
31st October	End of November

What happens next?

- If your application for an individual grant is approved, you will be informed by email.
- If your application for a bed or a digital device is approved, Variety will order the item and it will be sent to your home.
- If you applied for mobility equipment or doctor's fees, you will need to send Variety a GST invoice.
- If your application for an individual grant is declined, you will be informed by email. Variety receives a lot of applications and cannot approve every one.

To apply for Kiwi Kid Sponsorship or an Individual Grant, or to send in invoices and quotes, please go to www.variety.org.nz

When you sign in for the first time, you need to register. Once signed in you can:

1. Go to **My Applications** to:
 - a. Apply for Kiwi Kid sponsorship (KKS)
 - b. Apply for an Individual Grant (IG)
2. Go to **My Children** to check your children's Variety balance.
3. Go to **My Claims** to send in an invoice or a quote

Remember: Please keep your password in a safe place so you can use it to log in to the Variety website.



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Phone: (09) 520 4111

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This brochure is available
in English, Te Reo Māori, and
Gagana Samoa.

