

Totara Connect



You need to be a Site Administrator, or have the appropriate permissions to be able to configure any settings related to Totara Connect.

On this page

What is Totara Connect?

Totara Connect lets you link (i.e. connect) multiple Totara instances together, including Totara Learn and Totara Social. This makes for a smoother experience when moving between Totara sites and also enables the sharing of data, such as user details.

This means Totara Connect is a single sign-on and user identity solution for multiple Totara instances. Connected sites can share user accounts and logins, allowing all users or selected audiences to navigate between them seamlessly.

Totara Connect requires one Totara Learn site to act as the server. Once Totara Connect has been enabled and configured on the server, it is then possible to start connecting more Totara Learn or Totara Social sites as clients. Once connected information is then synchronised from the server to the client.

Totara Connect server

Totara Connect server is a plugin that facilitates the server side aspects of connecting sites effectively, allowing the site to act as a master to which client sites can connect and synchronise.



Totara Connect server is disabled by default. To enable it you must log in as a site administrator and turn on **Enable Totara Connect server**, which can be found under *Site administration > Advanced features*.

Once enabled a new administration section will become available at *Site administration > Users > Accounts > Totara Connect server*.

Even when enabled, by itself the server plugin is inactive. It is not until a second Totara Learn or Totara Social site is connected as a client that the Totara Connect server provides added functionality.

Totara Connect client

The Totara Connect client is an authentication plugin that facilitates a connection between the current site and one or more Totara Learn sites with an active Totara Connect server.

To be able to add a client to a Totara Connect server, you first need to enable the *Totara Connect client* authentication plugin. Go to *Site administration > Plugins > Authentication > Manage authentication* and enable **Totara Connect client** by selecting the icon in the *Enable* column.

Manage authentication

Available authentication plugins

Name	Users	Enable	Up/Down	Settings	Test settings	Uninstall
Manual accounts	4			Settings		
No login	0			Settings		
Email-based self-registration	0			Settings		Uninstall
Totara Connect client	0			Settings		Uninstall

Set up a Totara Connect client for Totara Learn

Once you have enabled the Totara Connect server, you'll then need to configure the Totara Connect client. Make sure you have [enabled the Totara connect client authentication plugin](#) on the client site first.

In a nutshell the necessary steps to take are:

1. First [configure your Totara Connect server settings](#).
2. Next [configure your Totara Connect client settings](#).
3. Then [connect to a Totara Connect server](#).
4. Finally, [add your Totara Connect client](#) to your Totara Connect server.

Configure Totara Connect server settings

Go to *Site administration > Users > Accounts > Totara Connect server > Settings*.

Sync user passwords

If you want to send user password hashes from your server site to client sites, enable this option.

Configure Totara Connect client settings

Go to *Site administration > Plugins > Authentication > Totara Connect client > Settings*.

Automatic single sign-on via server

This setting allows you to automatically log on to a Totara Connect client site connected to a specific Totara Connect server. Choose a Totara Connect server to automatically sign-on from. Note that you need to [connect to a server](#) first to select it from the list.

Migrate local accounts

When enabled, local accounts are migrated to Totara Connect accounts. Totara Connect accounts can log in only via single sign-on.



You should make sure the selected account mapping cannot be abused by Totara Connect server users to hijack existing client accounts. For example when mapping via username, users should not be allowed to sign up for new accounts on the Totara Connect server.

Account mapping

Choose the field you want to use to map user accounts by during migration. You should make sure this field is locked and cannot be modified by ordinary users or customised during user self registration, both on the server and clients.

User fields available are:

- Username
- Email address
- ID number
- Totara Connect unique ID

Action to take when a user is removed from the restricted audience

If your Totara Connect users are restricted to an audience on the server, this setting determines what happens with local accounts when the user is removed from that audience on the server.

Options are:

- Keep internal user
- Suspend internal user
- Full delete internal user



Please note that any synchronised users who are deleted from the server will also be deleted from the local site.

Connect to a Totara Connect server

Go to *Site administration > Plugins > Authentication > Manage authentication > Totara Connect client > Servers* and select **Connect to new server**.



Note down the **Client URL** and **Client setup secret** as you'll need this information to complete the setup.

Totara Connect servers

For security reasons all Totara Connect clients should be hosted via a secure protocol (https).

There are no records in this report

Send this information to the Totara Connect server administrator:

- Client url: <http://totara9.local>
- Client setup secret: e88e7c1c83f9b3a4409e19a9e37301ad36fe

Cancel connection

Add a Totara Connect client

Log in as a site administrator to the site which is acting as the Totara Connect server, go to *Site administration > Users > Accounts > Totara Connect server > Client systems* and select **Add client**.

You will then need to configure the settings, which are as follows:

Setting	Description	Notes
Name	Enter a name for the client site.	-
Client URL	The URL of the client site. This should be the URL provided when connecting to a new server .	-
Client setup secret	The setup secret for the client site. This should be the client setup secret provided when connecting to a new server .	-
Restrict to audience	You can choose to only synchronise users from a specific audience from the Totara Connect server to the Totara Connect client site. The restriction is applied to all synchronised audiences and courses too i.e. only the audience restricted gets synchronised.	-
Add new courses	If enabled, each new course created in the LMS will be synchronised with the client to create a matching new group (Totara Social) or audience (Totara Learn). The enrolled users of the courses will be added as members to the respective groups or audiences created.	-
Add new audiences	If enabled, each new audience created in the LMS will be synchronised with the client to create a new group (Totara Social) or audience (Totara Learn). The members of the audiences are added as members to the respective groups or new audiences.	-
Synchronised audiences	Choose one or more audiences and synchronise members to the client site.	-
Synchronised courses	Choose one or more courses and synchronise all enrolled users to the client site.	-
Comment	Add any applicable comments related to the client site.	-

Once complete, select **Add client**. You'll now see that there is an active connection between the server and the client site and a new option will become available on the login page of the client site.

Totara Connect clients

For security reasons Totara Connect servers should be hosted via a secure protocol (https).

Name	ID number	URL	Synchronised audiences	Synchronised courses	Comment	Registered	Status
Totara LMS 5.0	3ba2adbd4a3b8d247850fad43fe9eb7096958806	http://totara9.local				19 Nov 2016 at 20:18	Active

Add client

Set up Totara Connect client for Totara Social

To set up a Totara Connect client for Totara Social please see the [Totara Social 2.0 documentation](#) for further information.

Logging in a Totara Connect client site

1. Navigate to the client site in your browser.
2. Select **Log in using your account on:[Server site name]**. If you're not already logged into the Totara Connect server site, you'll be prompted to log in.
3. An account will be created on the server site if it doesn't exist and copy over all the user's profile fields with the exception of:
 - Interests
 - Custom profile fields
 - Username (this is automatically generated by Totara Connect and starts with letters "tc").
 - ID number (used by HR Import).

Totara Connect scheduled tasks



If you're new to scheduled tasks, see our [dedicated page](#) for more information about how they work.

General cleanup task

```
\auth_connect\task\cleanup_task
```

This task runs internal clean up tasks required by the Totara Connect client.

User collections sync task

```
\auth_connect\task\user_collection_task
```

This task checks the server for audience groups that are scheduled to be synced and recreates those audiences on the client.

Users sync task

```
\auth_connect\task\user_task
```

This task syncs all information related to the individual users. This includes profile field data, user custom field data and job assignment data (includes position and organisations, but excludes managers and appraisers).