

# The Mauri Ora Pathway



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THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO

## The Mauri Ora Pathway

- The Mauri Ora Pathway uses the Ako: Critical Context for Change model to help educators understand how to accelerate their Māori learner's academic success as well as prioritise and strengthen their cultural identity. When this happens, the mauri of all learners can be strengthened.
- For tamariki Māori to be taught more effectively and mauri ora to flourish, we must understand what is currently happening for learners and where change needs to happen.

### The Ako: Critical Contexts for Change involve:

Learners feeling that they belong in their classrooms, and seeing that their leaders and teachers understand and use the following:

#### 1. Cultural relationships for responsive pedagogy.

Learners' experiences are welcomed, valued and appreciated as foundational to new learning. Learners grow and learn with each other as well as with the teacher. Learning is fun.

#### 2. Deliberate professional acts applied with adaptive expertise.

Teachers modify curriculum, policies,

### Te Hurihanganui Pou and Principles

The pou are:

*Kaupapa Māori and Critical Consciousness.*

The principles are:

*Te Ao Māori, Tino Rangatiratanga, Whanaungatanga, Te Ira Tangata, Mana Ōrite, and Te Hāngaitanga.*

assessment practices and interventions so that learners and whānau see themselves in their learning. They address inequity and racism within the systems and structures of the school or centre.

### 3. Home school collaborations.

Leaders and teachers create a community that truly involves and serves their learners and whānau. When whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori organisations are part of planning and decision-making, better outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi can be achieved.

### Expected Outcomes are:

- Recognising that when these aspects are focused on at the same time, Māori learners are more likely to enjoy and achieve educational success as Māori. They experience a sense of mauri ora and feeling that they belong at school.
- This means their cultural identity as Māori is strengthened and at the same time they are achieving qualifications that will give them real choices for their future.

*I don't think success for us is just academic. It's finding who we are and being happy with ourselves and being able to confidently walk with te ao Māori and te ao Pākehā. Showing them that we can do just as good as they can, and better.*

Māori student