

Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako Newsletter

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Term 1 2025



Introducing our Co-Leads.

Ko Taranaki te maunga
Ko Waitara te awa
Ko Te Ati Awa te iwi
No Ōtautahi ahau
Ko Matt White tōku ingoa

Welcome to 2025! I hope the year has started well for you all. This year, our workstream mahi will focus on implementing the significant curriculum changes in the education sector while continuing to strengthen our Wairarapatanga mahi.

Together, we can shape and enhance learning experiences for our ākonga, ensuring they thrive.

I look forward to working alongside all the fantastic Whakaoriori teachers, staff, and educators as we build on the strengths of our Kāhui Ako.

Matt White

Haere mai and welcome! I trust the start of the school year has gone well for everyone.

The start of a school year is always an exciting time; it is often about making new connections, meeting new people, setting new goals and challenges, trying new things, taking on new opportunities and new mahi.

This year is about change and getting to grips with new approaches, new curriculum and making a positive difference for our ākonga, whanau, teachers, and staff. It is about working together and working smarter.

Our Kāhui Ako team is excited about the year ahead, working and supporting you and your teams in 2025.

Andrew Osmond

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Introductions

What is the
Whakaoriori
Kāhui Ako?

Workstream
updates

Upcoming
events

What is the Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako?

Kāhui Ako Vision - **Collaboratively building potential across Whakaoriori**

The Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako philosophically believes that together is better. We have a clear purpose to improve educational equity and outcomes for all ākonga in Whakaoriori by working with stakeholders including mana whenua. This means we have a collective responsibility for all learners.

We boast a large group of 35 members. We are diverse and look at this as a strength and opportunity, rather than a challenge. We currently have 21 member schools, 17 Early Childhood Centres plus UCOL Wairarapa.

Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako Strategy 2025-2026

Our Achievement Challenge – Our Goals

Curriculum – Teaching and Learning	Wairarapatanga
To continue to empower our kaiako so that our rangatahi have the best teachers who ensure they are successful in their learning journey.	To continue to develop our Wairarapatanga Curriculum so our rangatahi can be proud of who they are and where they are from.
Our Guiding Principles	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Enhance Collaboration- Communication, Visibility, Transparency- Sharing Practice- Accountability	

Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako Learning Framework Revised

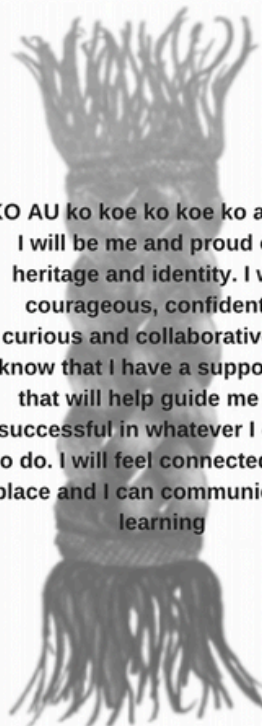
Tu Mai Ra - Stand tall and be Proud

AKO:

We are inclusive and have high expectations for all. Learning is ongoing for our Kāhui Ako - akonga, kaiako, hapori. We honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi by developing mana honouring curriculum which enhances the potential of all

MĀRAMATANGA:

We navigate knowledge with our heads and our heart. We have developed literacies across our curriculums and continue to progress within these. We are empowered to face challenges, solve problems individually and collaboratively.



KO AU ko koe ko koe ko au:

I will be me and proud of my heritage and identity. I will be courageous, confident and curious and collaborative. I will know that I have a support team that will help guide me to be successful in whatever I choose to do. I will feel connected to this place and I can communicate my learning

TURANGAWAEWAE:

We are the Kaitiaki and guardians of our community - our people our place and our stories. We honour Te Ao Māori and foster inclusive learning environments that are vibrant equitable and contribute to our community.

HAUORA:

We have a collective responsibility to take care of our well-being and the well-being of others. We have a sense of belonging and support our people to be the best that they can be.

Across School Leaders (ASL) Profiles



Amy Williams

Ko Amy Williams tōku ingoa. No Wairarapa ahau! I am proud to be mana whenua. I have 2 daughters - Cammy who is living and working in London and Kaitlyn who is a Yr 13 pupil. When I'm not in my ASL role I am the assistant Principal at Fernridge School...sport is an absolute passion in our household! I am co-leading the Wairarapatanga workstream with Mike Brown and really looking forward to everything we have planned for 2025. I started as an ASL in 2019 and love making connections with Principals, kaiako, tauira, outside agencies/experts and the opportunity to effect change across our Kāhui.



Kristy Boderick

Kia ora koutou. I am in my fifth year as an Across School Teacher and love working across all sectors of education from ECE through to tertiary. I am looking forward to leading the effective pedagogy mahi in the teaching and learning workstream after working in the hauora and engagement workstreams previously.

In my spare time I enjoy spending time with whānau, reading, baking and travelling.



Andrea Harvey

Kia ora, my name is Andrea Harvey, and I have nearly completed my first year as an Across School Lead. My husband Stu and I have two awesome teenagers, Sam and Kate. I work at Solway Primary School where I teach Year 2 students. I am a Wairarapa local, I have spent the majority of my 20+ years teaching in the South Wairarapa. I have a passion for building connections with others and fostering collaborative work. It is a privilege to be in this role, striving to achieve our vision of collaboratively building potential across Whakaoriori.



Jane Milne

Kia ora Koutou, I was one of the original team of ASL, and am still inspired by the mahi being undertaken by all kura in our Kāhui Ako.

I am an Associate Principal at Hadlow and have had extensive experience in Intermediate teaching; I appreciate the connections created through the Kāhui Ako between Primary and Secondary.

I have 3 adult children and have inherited two grandchildren. I am revived by spending time with whanau, friends, my Great Dane, Delilah, as well as nature, exercise, shows and travelling.



Peter Mele

Kia ora koutou, I am into my third year as an ASL and currently work in the Teaching and Learning workstream, focusing on assessment, maths and teacher practice. Currently I teach year 5 & 6 at Hadlow School.

I live on a small lifestyle block near Carterton/Taratahi with my wife and have three daughters.

I continue to be very excited about the challenges that lie ahead, the opportunity to grow and strengthen relationships, and I really do hope to make a positive and enduring impact within the Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako.

I relax by playing sport (cricket and golf), travelling, listening to music, spending time with whanau and friends, gardening and occasionally home brewing.



Mike Brown

Kia ora koutou, Ko Michael Brown tōku ingoa

I am new to the Across School Lead role, starting this year. Prior to this, I was a Within School Lead focusing on the Wairarapatanga workstream. I have loved working in this workstream, and am looking forward to continuing this mahi in this new space.

I live in Whakaoriori with my incredible wife, Tiriana, and our two amazing boys, Machin and Tawera.

I enjoy playing rugby for Marist Rugby Club, and spending time with the whānau.

Curriculum - Teaching and Learning Workstream

This year the Curriculum - Teaching and Learning Workstream will be led by four ASLs - Pete, Kristy, Andrea and Jane.

The overarching goals for this mahi will be:

- To explore and promote effective teaching practices and knowledge to support all ākonga in achieving success.
- To improve teaching and learning outcomes from ECE to Year 13.

We will provide WSLs with professional learning opportunities that they can take back to their kura, helping to spread new learning throughout our Kāhui. WSLs will also participate in one of four Action Groups. These groups will collaborate on projects designed to make a meaningful impact in the class.

Professional Learning

To explore and promote effective teaching practices and knowledge to support all ākonga in achieving success.
To improve teaching and learning outcomes from ECE to Year 13.

WSLs will be provided with Professional Learning to take back to their kura.

Early Years learning ECE - Primary This action group will facilitate professional learning hui for Year 0-3 Primary teachers. It will also involve visiting ECE centres to discuss early learning and develop connections between ECE and Primary School	Middle Years learning Intermediate - College This action group will build connections between years 7 - 13 kaiako with a focus on CAAs, AI tools and literacy needs.
Effective Pedagogy This action group will highlight parts of what makes an effective teacher and provide resources/videos to upskill teachers.	Assessment Mathematics Curriculum This action group will be supporting kaiako with the Mathematics curriculum, pedagogy and current teaching programmes. It will also look at effective assessment practices.

Action Groups

WSLs will work on one of the following actions to make a meaningful impact across our Kāhui

Curriculum - Teaching and Learning WSL Day

The Teaching and Learning workstream met with RTLB, the Ministry of Education (MOE), and WSLs on Friday, 7 March. Our discussions on inclusive practices and curriculum development provided valuable insights to take back to kura.

In the afternoon, action groups continued discussions with the MOE, CAA, and Kōwhiri Whakapae, while also focusing on assessment, maths, and effective pedagogy.

A big thank you to Sarah and Jane from RTLB, and Ra, Vanessa, and Hannah from the MOE for your contributions. We greatly appreciate these collaborative relationships. Exciting developments are on the way—watch this space!

Save the date: Term 2 Teaching and Learning WSL Day – Friday, 6 June at Hadlow.



Curriculum - Teaching and Learning WSL Day



WSLs gather at Chanel College on the 7th March for a day of learning.



Wairarapatanga

The Wairarapatanga workstream this year will be led by Amy Williams and Michael Brown. This workstream is focusing on:

- continuing to empower our kaiako so that our rangatahi have the best teachers who ensure they are successful in their learning journey.
- continuing to develop our Wairarapatanga Curriculum so our young people can be proud of who they are and where they are from.

Year 13 Leaders and New Understandings of Te Tiriti

We began 2025 by delivering Te Tiriti kaupapa to Year 13 leaders from Wairarapa College, Mākoura College, and Solway College. We are always impressed by the new learning, thoughtful discussions, and goal-setting that take place throughout the day. We left feeling confident that Wairarapa's future is in safe hands. Later this year, we will welcome more student leaders and new staff to Whakaoriori for further learning.



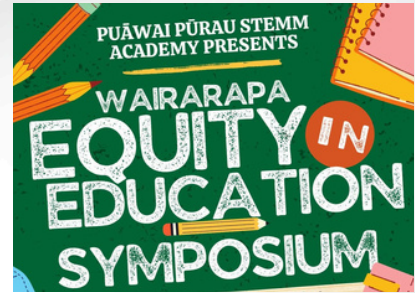
Strengthening Early Learning Opportunities (SELO) Programme

Dee Cruse (photo left) has been given a contract to provide a 5-month programme to support kaiako to strengthen their teaching practices to better reflect te ao Māori, te reo Māori, and Māori culture, looking at both Kahungunutanga and Rangitānetanga.

The programme will include wānanga looking at local history at cultural sites of significance around the Wairarapa with Ra Smith, a cultural expert in the Wairarapa, te reo Māori workshops with Te Ataahia Hurihanganui (photo right), and a visit to Te Rangimarie Marae

The first wānanga was held on Wednesday 12th March, and was attended by over 40 educators. Thank you Dee and Te Ataahia for your amazing mahi in this initiative.

Equity in Education Symposium



It was fantastic to see so many educators gathered at the Wairarapa College Hall on Saturday, 8th March for the Equity in Education Symposium, led by Waireka Collings and the Puāwai Pūrau STEM Academy. It was an inspiring kaupapa, featuring incredible speakers and panelists who shared valuable insights.



Upcoming Dates

WSL Hui

Friday 21st March @ Pūkaha

New Understandings of Te Tiriti Workshops

Friday 9th May (student leaders)
Friday 23rd May (new staff)

We want you!



Whakaoriori
Kāhui Ako

Apply now to be a Kāhui Ako Across School Leader

The Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako | Community of Learning is seeking an experienced teacher to be appointed as an Across School Leader (term of employment two years) who can work collaboratively to support our community's teachers to meet our Achievement Challenges (Teaching and Learning and Wairarapatanga). A strength and interest in Early Childhood Education is an advantage.

Please contact Matt White mwhite@waicol.nz or Andrew Osmond andrew.osmond@trinityschools.nz for further details.

Upcoming event

AI PLG

WHAKAORIORI KĀHUI AKO
**COME, FIND OUT AND SHARE AI TOOLS
THAT WILL HELP YOU AS AN EDUCATOR**



WAIRARAPA
COLLEGE LIBRARY

THURSDAY
3 APRIL, 2025 3:30-4:30pm

RSVP - Lynton Baird lbaird@waicol.nz
or Jane Milne jmilne@hadlow.school.nz

Updates

Air New Zealand has announced the launch of the \$1 million Every Corner Project to support community-led initiatives to help restore and regenerate the natural environment in every region.

From composting to native tree planting, restoring wetlands and food gardens, they will support wide a range of nature projects in “every corner” of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Applications from the contestable fund will be open to:

- a hapū, iwi or registered charity: from \$10,000 to 15,000 grant;
- a school or kura: from \$10,000 to \$15,000 grant

If any of your kura/schools that you connect with, or marae would like to look into this then I have attached the link!

<https://www.facebook.com/EasternandCentralCommunityTrust>

Year 0 - 3 Hui 2025



Year 0 - 3 Hui are back!
Come along to connect,
collaborate, share ideas and
support your Year 0 - 3 Colleagues.
The focus this year will be on
Mathematics.

Monday 7th April 2025

Solway Primary School

Arrive from 3:15pm for kai and time to connect.

The hui will run from 3:45 - 4:45pm.

Year 0 -3 Hui Dates 2025

Term 2 Thursday 8th May

Term 3 Thursday 24th July

Term 4 - Classroom Visits

Please contact Andrea Harvey to RSVP
andrea@solway.school.nz

Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako 2025 Hui Dates

Term	Kaitiaki Group (leaders)	WSL	ASL	PLD Opportunities and Events
ONE	3 April 2.30 - 3.30pm Reap	20 February 3.30 - 4.30pm Fernridge Teaching & Learning PD day Friday 7 March - all day @ Chanel College Wairarapatanga PD day Friday 21 March all day @ Pukaha	Every Thursday morning 9.00 - 11.00am	PCT/LAT/OTT Kāhui Ako Meet and Greet 28th January - Lonestar PCT/LAT/OTT Kahui Ako/RTLB 21st of February- all day @REAP Yr 13 Leaders Te Tiriti workshop - Friday 28th February
TWO	26 June 2.30 - 3.30pm Reap	15 May 3.30 - 4.30pm Solway Primary Teaching & Learning PD day 6 June - all day - venue TBC Wairarapatanga PD day 13 June - all day	Every Thursday morning 9.00 - 11.00am	PCT/LAT/OTT Kahui Ako/RTLB 16th of May- all day @REAP Literacy Quiz @ LightHouse 29 May - 9.30 - 11am
THREE	4 September 2.30 - 3.30pm Reap	31 July 3.30 - 4.30pm St Patrick's Teaching & Learning PD day 22 August - all day - venue TBC Wairarapatanga PD day 29 August - all day	Every Thursday morning 9.00 - 11.00am	PCT/LAT/OTT Kāhui Ako Workshop TBC- Reap
FOUR	27 November 2.30 - 3.30pm Reap	23 October 3.30 - 4.30pm Venue - TBC Teaching & Learning PD day 7 November - all day - venue TBC Wairarapatanga PD day 31 October - all day 20 November 1.00 - 3.00pm EOY presentations	Every Thursday morning 9.00 - 11.00am	PCT/LAT/OTT Kāhui Ako Workshop TBC- Reap

Thank you for reading!

WHAKAORIORI KĀHUI AKO

www.whakaoriori.co.nz