

Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako Newsletter

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Term 2 2025



MATT WHITE AND ANDREW OSMOND

The importance of Kāhui

Earlier this term, we attended the Kāhui Ako national body conference, and it reaffirmed something we already knew: the true power of Kāhui lies in its networks — networks of expertise, networks of excellence, and networks of leadership. Throughout the conference, and in our own WSL hui and PLG sessions, we see the impact of this collaboration and the connections it is fostering. There was a tangible sense of shared purpose, innovation, and professional generosity. Dr. Mark Osborne described Kāhui Ako's unique selling point as its ability to foster a culture of "ambitious, optimistic, continuous improvement." This is what we're building — and it's making a difference.

It's also what makes the recent announcement around the end of formal Kāhui Ako funding disappointing. But let us be clear: our commitment to the kaupapa remains. We are determined to continue the work we've begun.

We've built this Kāhui while flying it — and now we're preparing to keep flying, even without the fuel. That means leaning even more into what makes Kāhui strong: internal accountability, collective leadership, and a culture where innovation and intelligent risk-taking are celebrated.

We'll continue to draw on each other's strengths. We'll continue to lead from the middle, build more leaders, and multiply our impact. Because as we were reminded at the conference: collaboration is multiplication. And that's a future worth flying toward — together.

Matt White

Andrew Osmond

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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

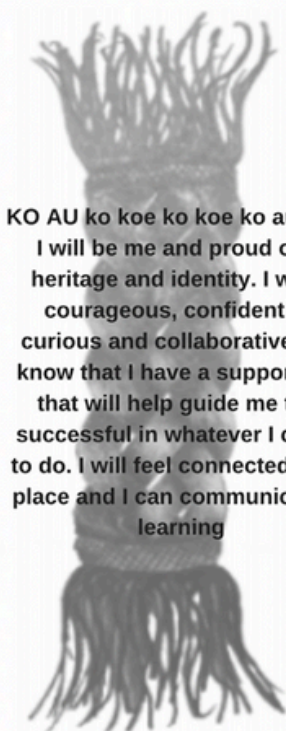
Tu Mai Ra - Stand tall and be Proud

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.

Curriculum - Teaching and Learning Workstream

This year the Curriculum - Teaching and Learning Workstream is being led by four of our ASLs - Pete, Kristy, Andrea and Jane.

Early Literacy Project

Our team has been visiting ECE centres and kindergartens within our rōpū. Kaiako have been modelling early literacy sessions and engaging in meaningful conversations to strengthen shared knowledge and understanding between our primary and ECE kaiako across Whakaoriori.



Year 0 - 3 Mathematics Hui

On the 8th of May, teachers of Year 0–3 students gathered at Hadlow to connect, collaborate, and share ideas. Rosie Milne from Solway Primary shared a presentation on their use of Number Agents in mathematics.

A shared mathematics resource was created to collate the ideas discussed during the hui. You can access it here: <http://tiny.cc/b5cl00l>

Prīme Hui

Ten schools came together this term to share an understanding of the new mathematics and statistics curriculum and how Prīme can be used to support teaching and learning.

We shared information about planning, assessment, implementing the curriculum and how to use Prīme to support this. Many positive connections were made and we committed to working together in the future. We have another Prīme hui set for week nine this term, to be supported by a Prīme representative.



Whakaoriori Book Quiz

The second annual Book Quiz took place on Thursday 29th May. A tight competition in both the Year 5-6 and Year 7-8 categories showed the extensive knowledge that all teams had of the 6 chosen New Zealand novels and picture books. We had video messages from two of the authors - T K Roxborough and James Russell to help motivate the competitors. Congratulations Chanel (Y7-8) and Hadlow (Y5-6) teams for their first places - they walked away with trophies. It is exciting to see so many tamariki loving literacy and working together as teams. Thanks to all the teachers and librarians who supported the quiz. Thanks also to the sponsors - Masterton South Rotary Club and Sally Kean books.



CAA workshop

Year 6-9 teachers gathered together at Masterton Intermediate on 29 May to learn from the Within School Leads and secondary teachers about how to support students to achieve these 'Common Assessment Activities.' Thank you Michelle and Katy for the time spent putting this presentation together, which is now on our website. We learnt what we can do as Primary and Intermediate teachers to support development in Literacy and Numeracy. It was also another chance to connect between primary and secondary teaching and share practice. It is clear that we have a lot of experience across our kura.



Curriculum - Teaching and Learning WSL PD Day

The Teaching and Learning workstream met with RTLb, ASL's, and WSLs on 6 June. Our discussions focused on inclusive practices and curriculum knowledge, as well as hearing from a gem based at one of our schools who provided us with a lot to take back and share with our respective kura.

In the afternoon, action groups continued to work together to further the mahi currently underway. A big thank you to Ewan from RTLb and Katy from Chanel for your contributions. We appreciate the commitment towards improving education for our tamariki and rangatahi through forging connections in ways like this.

Save the date: Term 3 Teaching and Learning WSL Day – Friday 22 August at TBC .



Wairarapatanga

Workstream

Our first workstream day was at Te Wānanga Taiao o Manukura, Pūkaha. Rangitāne o Wairarapa welcomed us on and it was the perfect space to begin our mahi for 2025 in our action groups.

We look forward to our term 2 Wairarapatanga day where we will begin our day at Uhi Mānuka with local experts, Gill Stewart and Joe Potangaroa.



Strengthening Early Learning Opportunities (SELO) Programme

Continuing on from the SELO contract that Dee Cruse was given earlier this year, there have been several online workshops with Te Ataahia Hurihanganui. These workshops have covered several aspects of Māoritanga, including mihi, whakapapa, Rangitānetanga and Ngāti Kahungunutanga. Tēnā koe for providing your mātauranga.

Included in the programme are several in-person wānanga. On 5 April, a bus trip was led by Rā Smith, a cultural expert in the Wairarapa who shared his mātauranga of pūrākau of Wairarapa. We were taken to several local sites of historical significance. Tēnā koe to Rā for sharing your wisdom with those on the bus tour. The next wānanga is organised for Saturday 7th June at Te Rangimarie Marae.

A massive mihi also, to Dee Cruse for providing educators in Wairarapa with this special kaupapa. You are a tāonga!



New Understandings Te Tiriti O Waitangi Workshops

This year, we have delivered the “New Understandings of the Tiriti O Waitangi” workshop three times to year 13 leaders in Whakaoriori, as well as Kaiako and kaimahi in the education sector. There have been incredible kōreros held during these workshops, followed by some powerful goals set by those who attended. Ka mua, ka muri, we must know what came before us to plan for what is ahead of us.

We will be running our next workshop on 8 August for new staff. See the flyer attached for more details.



Wairarapa-Specific Pukapuka for Educators

As a koha to the kura and ECE centres, the Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako will be providing a copy of some Wairarapa-specific books, including “Poua Reo Māori 1 & 2” - a Rangitāne resource book covering several aspects of Rangitānetanga, and “Wairarapa Kōrero” - A resource detailing the pūrākau of Haunui-a-nanaia and the naming of several maunga and awa in Wairarapa, as told by Mike Kawana.



Upcoming Dates

WSL Hui

Friday 13th June @ Uhi Mānuka

New Understandings of
Te Tiriti Workshops

Friday 8th August (new staff)



Year 0 - 3 Hui

2025

Join us to connect, collaborate, and share ideas about mathematics in the early years.

This session will include discussion time around the structure of maths lessons, differentiation and the use of resources during mathematics.

We will also have a presentation from Hadlow Preparatory School

Thursday 24th July at Solway Primary

Arrive from 3:15pm for kai and time to connect. The presentation will begin at 3:45 pm and run for approximately an hour

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

Term 3

Year 0 - 3 Hui

24th July

From 3:45pm
Solway Primary

Transition Hui



All welcome from
4:30pm with time to connect at the beginning of the hui.

Term 3

Transition Hui

20th August

From 4:30pm
Douglas Park School

Term 3

20th August 4:30pm
Douglas Park School

Please contact Andrea Harvey if you have any questions
andrea@solway.school.nz

Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako 2025 Hui Dates

Term	Kaitiaki Group (leaders)	WSL	ASL	PLD Opportunities and Events
TWO	26 June 2.30 - 3.30pm Reap - Education Centre, Dixon street	Wairarapatanga PD day 13 June - all day	Every Thursday morning 9.00 - 11.00am	Transition Hui Wednesday 11th June @ Pohutukawa ELC 4.30pm - 5.30pm PrIme Hui Thursday 26th June @ Hadlow 3.30 - 5.00pm
THREE	4 September 2.30 - 3.30pm Reap	WSL hui 31 July 3.30 - 4.30pm St Patrick's Teaching & Learning PD day Friday 22 August - all day Wairarapatanga PD day 29 August - all day	Every Thursday morning 9.00 - 11.00am	0-3 hui 24 July Solway Primary 3.45 PCT/LAT/OTT Kāhui Ako Workshop TBC- Reap Te Tiriti workshop for staff Friday 8th August 9am - 3pm
FOUR	27 November 2.30 - 3.30pm Reap	WSL hui 23 October 3.30 - 4.30pm Venue - TBC Teaching & Learning PD day Friday 7 November venue TBC Wairarapatanga PD day 24 October - all day EOY presentations 20 November 1.00 - 3.00pm	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